

Open Hand forced to clamp down
Changing financial and medical realities
lead to first eligibility changes since 1982.

page 30

Heroes of heroes
Who inspires the people
who inspire people?
see our Pride section



Think pink
Cult classic 'Pink
Narcissus' at SFILGFF.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 25 • 24 June 1999

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Giving shades: Supervisor Tom Ammiano was a crowd favorite, as always, in last year's parade.

Pride's here!

by Cynthia Laird

This is it – the weekend lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders (LGBT) look forward to for 51 weeks each year. San Francisco's 29th annual LGBT Pride celebration will kick off this weekend, culminating with the world-famous Pride Parade on Sunday.

Celebrants will have a wide variety of events to attend before then, including a Drag March in the Castro and the bisexual Fencesitters Ball at Club Paradise Friday night and the annual Dyke March and Pink Saturday celebrations in the Castro on Saturday. Also on Saturday, a noontime "Stand Against Hate" rally will be held at City Hall.

Sunday's parade, with the theme "Proud Heritage, Powerful Future," will start promptly at 10:30 a.m. with the Women's Motorcycle Contingent leading the hundreds of groups up Market Street. Hundreds of thousands of people are expected to line the street to watch thousands more – covering virtually every part of the wonderfully diverse LGBT community, plus their friends, families, and supporters – ride floats, ride cycles, march, and even tumble their way from Beale Street, near the Embarcadero, to Eighth Street.

At noon, parade contingents and the crowd will pause for a moment of silence, honoring those who have died of AIDS complications, breast cancer, domestic violence, and anti-gay violence. Community United Against Violence volunteers will pass out flyers and coordinate the momentary pause, a first for the parade.

Pride Committee Executive Director Teddy Witherington told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "A lot of people will be in a reflective mood, and I hope that will lead to everyone participating in the moment of silence."

Grand marshals for the parade are longtime gay activist Harry Hay and the popular Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG).

Local public transportation agencies will respond to the extra crowds coming from throughout the Bay Area to San Francisco, with Caltrain, which serves the Peninsula, adding extra service all weekend. Muni also plans expanded service, and although BART will operate on its regular Sunday schedule on Pride Day, with trains running every 20 minutes, BART spokesman Mike Healy told the *Bay Area Reporter* that longer trains will be offered.

After the parade, entertainment will flow from several stages; headlining the Main Stage

page 34 ►

INSIDE

BAR Talk	98
Classifieds	36
Dykeotomy	12
GLAAD	15
Lavender Tube	89
Mailstrom	7
Mister Marcus	96
Obituaries	33
Open Forum	6
Our Man Friday	11
Out & About	90
Out There	78
Personals	100
Sports Complex	34

Reunion but no remuneration

by Mark Norby

Circuit parties come and circuit parties go. So do promoters of those parties, and when they go they usually do not return. The promoter of this year's Reunion@City Hall: The Official Pride Party has returned, despite complaints from several vendors hired for last year's party that they have not been paid. Those vendors say this party and this promoter should be gone.

Ashley Ramage built the phenomenal 33-foot-in-diameter spaceship that hovered above the dance floor at last year's Reunion party at the Galleria Design Center. The spaceship was the hands-down hit among the throngs of partygoers, but a year later Ramage has not been fully paid for building the ship. He told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Reunion's promoter, Don Spradlin, still owes him \$1,200. Spradlin also hired Randall Schiller Productions for lighting and electrical work for the party. Spradlin owes Schiller \$4,368.25.

"I want to ask the community one thing: should promoters who rip off the gay community be supported? Don Spradlin

page 18 ►



The as-yet unpaid-for spaceship adorning last year's Reunion party.

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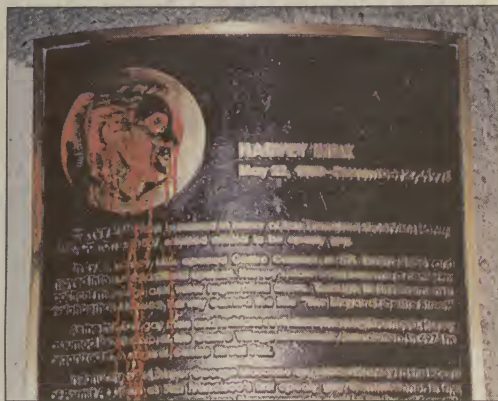
\$1,000 reward for info on defaced Milk plaque

by Mark Norby

The office of Mayor Willie Brown announced Friday, June 18 that a \$1,000 reward will be paid for information that leads to an arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for vandalizing the plaque honoring Harvey Milk at the Muni station at Castro and Market streets. Milk's face on the plaque was splattered with red paint or nail polish sometime during the weekend of June 12-13, making it look like he had been shot.

Members of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club approached Brown about the vandalism last Wednesday, June 16 and asked him to offer a reward. The plaque has stood in remembrance of Milk since early 1989, honoring his fight for the rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities. "This plaque honored his work and the work of thousands of others fighting for equality and this attack is an assault on everyone who is continuing the struggle," Brown stated. "In fact, Milk's quote at the bottom of the plaque reads: 'I am all of us.'"

"This attack on a gay icon during gay pride month is another example of the hatred and division that is being created by the



The defaced plaque at Harvey Milk Plaza.

far right around issues like same-sex marriage and non-discrimination protections," stated Toklas Co-chair Esther Lee. "We commend Mayor Brown for sending a strong message that this type of intimidation will not be tolerated in San Francisco."

The \$1,000 reward will come

from the District Attorney's ADL Settlement Fund, and will be paid to the person or persons with information leading to an arrest and conviction. Anyone with information should call Inspector Henry Seto with the San Francisco Police Department Hate Crimes Division at (415) 553-9144. ▼

Black and gay



Garland Thomas stands under the Marlon Riggs panel of the Names Quilt at the first National Black Gay Lesbian Transgender Pride Come-Out Day, held on June 19 in Oakland. The day included an "It's Natural Conference" at Laney College, which featured workshops and panels and afforded participants an chance to network and sell local products and services.

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Katz, Health Commission hold firm: No baths

by Liz Highleyman

Despite a proposed ballot initiative, two votes by the HIV Prevention Planning Council (HPPC), and vociferous opposition from some segments of the gay community, Department of Public Health (DPH) Director Dr. Mitchell Katz has indicated that he will maintain San Francisco's existing policy on private spaces in public sex establishments, and the city's Health Commission has backed him up.

Current DPH regulations require that sex venues provide safer sex supplies, prohibit locked private spaces, and mandate that all spaces be monitored by club staff. The rules were formally adopted in early 1997.

The HPPC voted at a special session on June 3, and again at its regular meeting on June 10, to recommend that the DPH rescind its prohibition of private spaces in commercial sex establishments. At the June 10 meeting, a provision was added that private spaces should be permitted unless "clear and compelling evidence exists" to show that such spaces lead to increased HIV transmission. The council co-chairs were directed to draft a letter to the Health Commission asking them to consider the recommendation. The HPPC is an advisory body; the commission and DPH retain final authority to set city health policy.



Dr. Mitchell Katz

At their June 15 meeting, after minimal discussion, Health Commission members decided to leave decisions about the sex club policy in Katz's hands. The commissioners determined that only Katz – not the Health Commission, whose members are appointed by the mayor – has the legal authority to make regulations regarding sexually transmitted disease prevention and control, a judgment that was confirmed by a city attorney present at the meeting.

Although the commission did not take a formal vote on the matter, several commissioners af-

firmed their support for Katz and his policy. Commissioner Ron Hill, who is openly gay and HIV-positive, said he found it embarrassing that the bathhouse issue was being discussed in a public forum, and stated that he was supportive of Katz's decision. Commission President Lee Ann Monfredini also expressed her support.

The commission declined to hold a hearing on the issue, as they are confident in Katz's ability to determine an appropriate policy. People on both sides of the debate acknowledge that definitive scientific evidence does not exist as to whether private spaces encourage or prevent sexual behavior that could transmit HIV; however, Katz said at the June 3 HPPC meeting that "common sense" suggests that such behavior is less likely to occur in monitored spaces.

Unlike the June 3 HPPC meeting, only a few community members were present at last Tuesday's commission meeting. Following the meeting, Gil Criswell of Community United for Sexual Privacy (CUSP) called the Health Commission's action "a slap in the face to gay men in this community." Opponents of the existing sex club regulations plan to move forward with their ballot initiative. They have until July 5 to collect 10,500 valid signatures and proponents have recently acknowledged they have around 1,000. ▼

SF Chamber of Commerce opposes Knight initiative

by Cynthia Laird

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce last Thursday, June 17, became the first business group in California to go on record against the Knight initiative that would add a provision to the California Family Code that, "only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."

State voters will decide on the initiative, authored by anti-gay state Senator Pete Knight (R-Palmdale), in March 2000.

The chamber's board of directors voted overwhelmingly to oppose the measure, said spokesman Jim Mathias.

"The Knight initiative is a

mean-spirited attack that is meant to be divisive, not to help California come together to grow and prosper and celebrate its diversity," said G. Rhea Serpan, chamber president and chief executive officer.

The chamber was also the first major business organization in the state to oppose Proposition 209, and the organization supports San Francisco's equal benefits ordinance. The law requires companies doing business with the city to offer benefits to domestic partners of employees if they offer those benefits to employees' spouses.

"The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce has a proud history of opposing discrimination in any form, and we strongly urge others to join us in opposing the Knight

initiative," Serpan added.

Cheryl Deaner, executive director of All Our Families Coalition told the *Bay Area Reporter* she was very happy with the chamber's stand. "It's excellent. It's wonderful. It makes only common sense since we have domestic partners that the chamber would come out against this."

Because California already prohibits same-gender marriages, the actual legal effect of the initiative would be to deny recognition of same-sex marriages performed in other states or countries, if such marriages were to become legal.

Both the city and county of San Francisco and the city of Los Angeles have already come out in opposition to the Knight initiative. ▼

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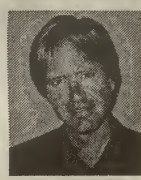
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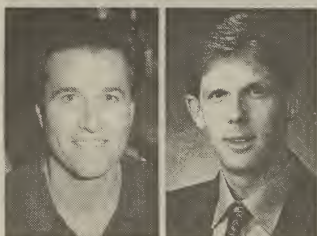
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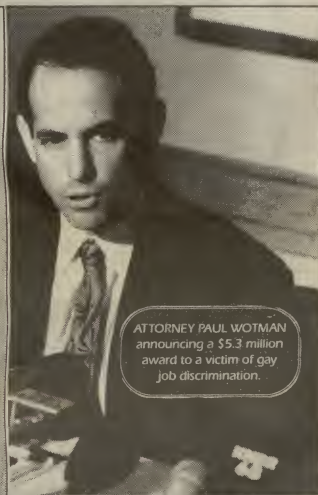
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Beer busts back!

ABC bows to gay supe, in time for Pride

by Mark Norby

Supervisor Mark Leno beamed at the huge turnout of gay activists streaming into the staid committee room of San Francisco City Hall for a regular Board of Supervisors Small Business, Economic Vitality, and Consumer Services Committee hearing Thursday, June 17. Nearly 100 percent of the room's occupants had come hoping to see the return of beer busts to the city's local gay bars. By the end of the meeting, they got what they wanted.

Leno put the issue at the top of the 10 a.m. hearing's agenda, and called on the state Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) agency to explain its position in targeting gay bars and their beer bust charity events, regularly held to raise money for city AIDS service organizations (ASOs).

Last November ABC authorities informed management of the Lone Star Saloon in the South of Market District that beer busts would not be allowed, due to the perceived notion "that they promote an uncontrolled amount of alcohol to be outgoing from the bar," according to ABC District Administrator Michael Tyrell. But Tyrell didn't seem interested in pushing the issue further at last Thursday's hearing in City Hall, although his agency and the Lone Star were scheduled for a June 25 hearing on the matter.

Leno's hearing brought together bar owners, ASO representatives, and organizers of beer busts. The supervisor pointed out that local bar owners have been hold-



R. G. Gehringer

Revelers are happy that beer busts have returned.

ing beer busts for years, and bar owners expressed their concerns that ABC has interpreted a pre-existing policy to the detriment of ASOs.

"Our ASOs are a cherished part of our community. We need to protect — even promote — events that help fund them. The beer bust itself has become an important mechanism for our community to show its support of people with HIV/AIDS," Leno said.

Leno also pointed out that many fundraisers and charitable events in San Francisco charge admission prices and provide open bars. He explicitly suggested the difference is the perceived sexual-ity of the events' clientele.

"When gay bars are hit unfairly by a vague state policy, it smacks of harassment," Leno said. "I want to be certain that the state isn't acting in a discriminatory way. Targeting beer busts is a new interpretation of a vague ABC policy already in existence which states you cannot serve uncontrolled amounts of alcohol."

Tyrell did not acknowledge that gay bars were specifically targeted, but said that from now on

the ABC will focus on events that "foster public drunkenness, excessive noise, and other social disturbances" instead of targeting events at specific bars.

At the end of the hearing, when it had been ruled that beer busts could continue if bars did not advertise "all you can drink," Lone Star owner Kevin Owens told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "We're absolutely ecstatic. I had no idea this was going to go so well."

"I'm not sure when we'll have our first beer bust after today's hearing," he added. "But it's going to be very, very soon." As it turned out, the Lone Star's first beer bust was Saturday, June 19, benefiting the charities of the Grand Ducal Court.

The Leather Daddies of San Francisco hosted a beer bust Sunday, June 20 at the Eagle that benefited the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Pride to be proud of

When the hearing closed with Supervisor Gavin Newsom's decisive pounding of the gavel, Leno said, "I am pleased that the ABC recognized the error of their previous policy." The teams of burly bears stood in unison and kisses and hugs were exchanged, and Leno jumped up to shake hands with his supporters. But as jacket after leather jacket left the committee room, the supervisor looked at them wistfully, as if he wished he could join them in a celebratory beer or two.

"We did it!" said Peter Miller, a longtime patron of the Lone Star. "And just in time to make this a Pride to be really proud about."

However, according to Owens, the beer bust issue is only one matter plaguing South of Market gay bar owners. He had complained in an earlier interview with the *B.A.R.*, "It's not just the ABC that's forcing all these tight policies. We've had to make extensive concessions and alterations to our bar to meet city codes that only recently have been created."

Jeffrey Gibson, the Lone Star's attorney and outspoken legal council at the hearing, said, "After months of arguing this before the ABC and being repeatedly told that no possibility short of appeals would resolve the matter, suddenly the night before the hearing state policy changed. This is the right decision." ▼

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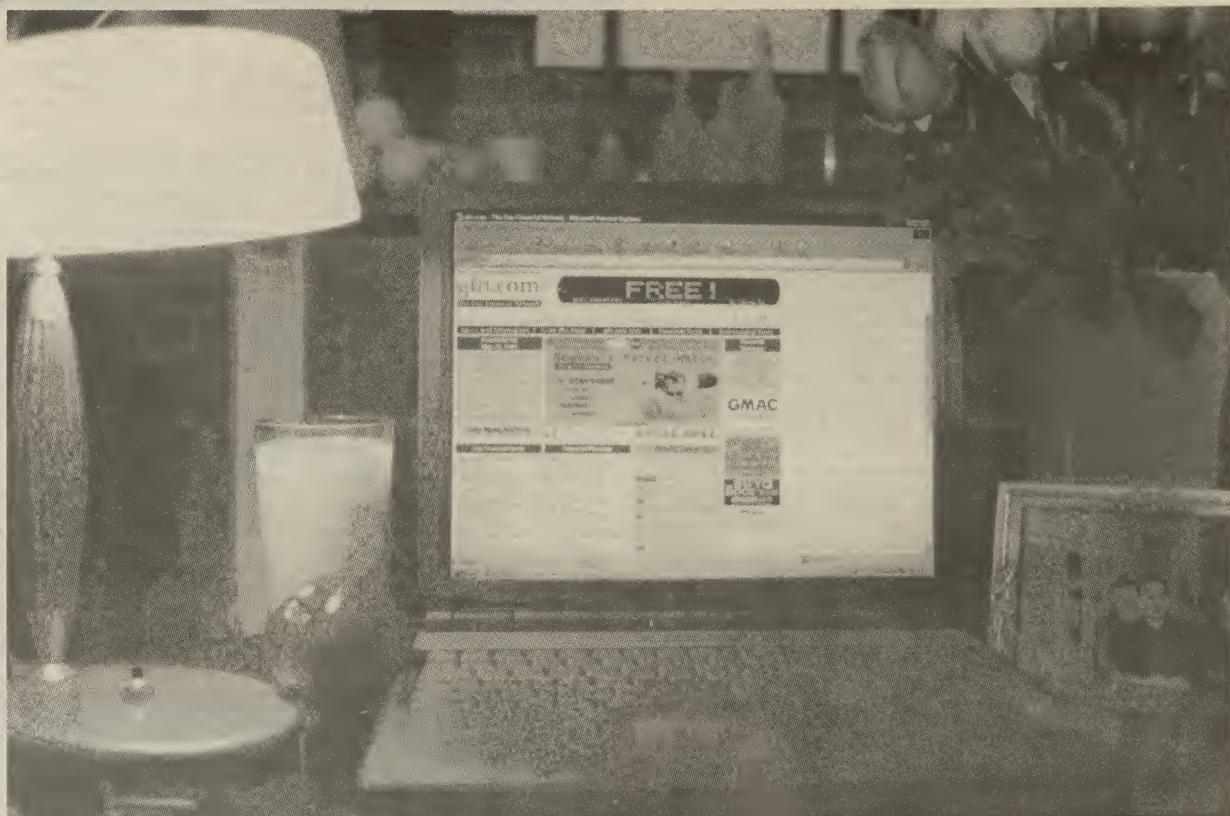
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Volume 29, Number 25
24 June 1999PUBLISHER
Bob RossASSOCIATE PUBLISHER
Mark Allen ThompsonNEWS EDITOR
Mike SalinasARTS EDITOR
Roberto FriedmanPOLITICAL EDITOR
Wayne FridayASSISTANT EDITORS
Cynthia Laird
Mark Mardon
Mark Norby

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tavo Amador • Heldi Beeler • David Blanco
Erin Blackwell • John Blanco • Dan Blue
Victoria A. Brownworth • Phillip Campbell
M.R. Covino • Chris Culwell • Jameson Currier
Richard Dadds • Nisa Donnelly • Liz Higleyman
Brandon Judell • Robert Julian • John F. Karr
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Simon LeVay • Daniel Mangin • Mister Marcus
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Stephanie von Buchau • Helen Vozenilek
Dick WaltersART DIRECTION & DESIGN
Adrian RobertsAD PRODUCTION & LAYOUT
Kurt ThomasPRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Scott KingPHOTOGRAPHERS
Jane Philomen Cleland • Darlene/PhotoGraphics
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National Gay Newspaper Guild
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Sounds of silence

Artists who know about such things say that the part of a photo or painting that isn't filled in is as important as what is portrayed. The same is true in music and drama, where patches of silence sometimes convey much more than notes or dialogue could.

That principle will be evident this Sunday, when the boisterous parade will stop and the crowd will fall silent for a minute to remember the community members we've lost through the years. The silence, representing the loss of our friends' voices, should be deafening and devastating.

Thankfully, the AIDS epidemic seems to be stilling voices these days at a slower pace than it did in its first 15 terrifying years. Nevertheless, it's still far too many and everyone should remember — no matter what "AIDS dissidents" claim — that HIV is still a powerful force that could break past the walls medical science is trying to build against it, and the death rate could skyrocket again tomorrow. But, it must be said, the parade marchers and observers won't fall silent only for victims of immune dysfunction; they will also honor and remember those lost to other epidemics, including the frequently terminal sickness of anti-gay violence.

In this week's issue we report about a popular employee of a local gay business who was found stabbed to death, apparently murdered with the kind of "overkill" that occurs all too frequently when the victim is homosexual. In this case, he was stabbed as many as 21 times. That kind of nearly unimaginable violence is unleashed upon gay people all too often across America, even here in San Francisco, even on the cusp of gay pride, even (as it seems in the Peterson case) at the hands of men who go to gay bars, pick up other men, and have sex with them before butchering them.

And it must stop. Obviously ours is not the only community wrestling with the issue of violence; everyone in America is thinking and talking about escalating brutality from coast to coast. There are no easy solutions (as opposed to simplistic solutions: those abound, unfortunately) and it's evident the only thing that reliably conquers barbarism is communication.

Without communication, there is no education. Without education, there is no hope of people learning to live together

without killing each other for stupid reasons. Only venal people who thrive on discord, like leaders of the so-called religious right who know that their flocks depend upon them more in times of crisis (real or imagined), could fight efforts to educate children about the evils of bigotry.

Regrettably, those venal forces were successful this year in derailing that kind of education here in California. A bill that would have given schools the mandate and tools to teach students that anti-gay behavior is wrong died in Sacramento this month, because of some cowardly Democrats (and every single Republican) who voted against the measure. Was that infuriating? Yes. The end of the story? Certainly not. That was the loss of one battle, not the war. The bill will be reintroduced next year, and every gay person who wants to see a safer, more congenial world should get involved to ensure its passage next time around.

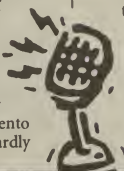
If every school were to teach children about the intrinsic worth of all people, the violence in this country would decline —

maybe not quickly enough, especially at first, but our experience with HIV shows that gradual change, sustained long enough, is surprisingly effective. This year, when we're taking in that minute of silence at the parade, we plan to honor our missing friends by thinking about ways to support

that kind of education. Obviously one of the more effective ways is to align ourselves with others who have different, but similar, problems that affect their right to live safely. Those natural allies include people of color, the elderly, and persecuted religious minorities. During that moment of silence — and long after — we'll be thinking about making and strengthening connections to them. Strengthening commu-

nication. Because sometimes silence speaks volumes, but most of the time it isn't enough. Education may not seem like enough, but it's everyone's best hope.

Take that minute of silence and reflect on ways to improve the world. The rest of the weekend, feel free to be joyous. Stay safe, and have fun. ▼



Editorial



Against United we (still) stand

by Jeff Sheehy, Geoff Kors,
and Ryan Clary

Last month, we in the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community scored a huge victory when Federal Judge Claudia Wilken handed down a historic decision that upheld San Francisco's Equal Benefits Ordinance. This law requires companies that do business with San Francisco give domestic partners of employees the same benefits that they give spouses of employees. The law Wilken affirmed has resulted in the compliance of more than 2,300 companies contracting with San Francisco, extending domestic partner benefits to more than one million of their employees nationwide.

This affirmation was in response to a challenge led by United Airlines and Pat Robertson's American Center for Law and Justice. In her ruling, Judge Wilken stated, "The ordinance aims to fulfill in economic terms a promise long required in city contracts: that parties doing business with the city not discriminate based on sexual orientation or marital status." Her ruling was so profound that Robertson's organization said, "This ruling changes corporate America by creating a culture shift that legitimizes same-sex relationships."

However, even after this court decision, the battle is not over. Robertson's organization has announced that it will appeal. While United Airlines has not announced whether it will also appeal, it still has not complied with the equal benefits ordinance.

Thus, the boycott of United Airlines is not over.

Coincidentally, United's deadline to decide if it will appeal is June 26 — the 30th anniversary of Stonewall.

Meanwhile, the airline's attorneys are working overtime to obtain a stay to block the enforcement of the judge's ruling until the appeals court can hear the case.

Why does United Airlines continue to defy a law upheld by a federal judge ending discrimination against their own employees? Its defiance is particularly appalling because the court only required it to offer bereavement leave, family medical leave, and travel passes. These are benefits that airlines' spokesman Sam Singer in the *Washington Blade* called "inconsequential."

While United's CEO, Gerald Greenwald, continues to lie and say that the airline is simply opposed to a local ordinance trying to regulate an airline, it is clear that homophobia is involved: last January, United complied with a Los Angeles ordinance, which required United to pay its local employees a "living wage." At the time, United claimed that the reason it complied with one and not the other was that the ordinances involved "different groups of employees."

In addition, San Francisco's attorneys have questioned Greenwald about a memo he wrote in September 1997 concerning domestic partner benefits. One of the notes in the memo stated, "Don't want to be first."

One can only hope that they also asked why he continues to resist providing equal benefits to his lesbian and gay employees.

Now is the time to tell United Airlines that its homophobic opposition to the equal benefits ordinance must end. A federal judge has upheld the law and she may soon order the airline to grant benefits immediately or lose their lease at San Francisco International Airport. United must know that appealing her decision is a slap in the face to its lesbian and gay employees and our community everywhere. This is simply a

matter of equal pay for equal work. Boycotting United sends an unambiguous signal to corporate America that we demand that the companies for which we work and whose products and services we buy treat our families and ourselves equally.

Don't fly United if you can avoid it.

If you must fly United, wear a "United against United" sticker or button. Get one this week at Main Line Gifts (and thank them for their support!) at 516 Castro Street. Wear one at the Parade on Sunday. You can also order them on our website, <http://www.equalbenefits.org>.

Also, call, write, and e-mail United's CEO Gerald Greenwald and tell him that our families deserve equal treatment. He must immediately respect the court decision and comply with the equal benefits ordinance. E-mail him at ggreenwald@ual.com or send him letters at Box 66100, Chicago, Illinois, 60666. ▼



Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Hush, hush 'sweet' Charlotte

Beach Blanket Babylon celebrated its 25th anniversary June 7 with all the hoopla that befits the silver anniversary of one of San Francisco's entertainment jewels. However, amidst this tuncful celebration one truly sour note was sung by our city's First Lady of Protocol, Charlotte Mailliard Schultz, formerly known as Tex in her Swig days. When it came time for her to present a \$100,000 donation to UCSF's Cancer Research Lab, she opened her presentation by giving Steve Silver's life and death a heterosexual gloss that was thicker than her lipstick and more false than the Superwoman wig she donned later in the show.

When First Lady Charlotte mentioned that Steve Silver went to a hospice she couldn't bring herself to say he was dying of AIDS, but instead said "for a reason." The audience might well ask what that reason would be—delivering flowers, perhaps? Was AIDS just a little too real for protocol? Or could it be that she was trying to convert Steve Silver to heterosexuality post-mortem? That was certainly the way it seemed as she went on to refer to Jo Schuman Silver to as the "great soul mate" of Steve Silver's life. Considering he did not marry Mrs. Silver until he was suffering from advanced AIDS-related complications and only had a few months to live, it seems obvious that the marriage was for the purpose of facilitating property transfer. It was little more than a clever business ploy to endow a good friend with a very special inheritance—a privilege denied those of us who have significant others of the same sex.

Charlotte did have to say the "A" word eventually, remarking that Steve Silver left a sizable donation to the National AIDS Memorial Grove. I am surprised she didn't refer to it as the "For A Reason Grove." From there she took the leap of logic that since he left money to the AIDS grove, he would be pleased and delighted that they were donating money from this first night to cancer research. Does anyone else see a leap of logic there? I do not begrudge the UCSF's Cancer Research Lab the money, nor the evening's other recipient, ACT, but there does seem to be an agenda in her choice of her words and charity.

Steve Silver might have been bisexual—I suspect he was probably gay—but either way he was definitely queer, not heterosexual. It is sad that in this city of all cities our First Lady of Protocol sees fit to distance herself and her tribute from so much of her constituency. If any of you boys and girls want to know how history is rewritten, take a lesson from our First Lady of Protocol and High Priestess of Prevarication, Ms. Mailliard Swig Schultz.

While the rest of the audience was adoringly applauding her Superwoman flight through the air suspended by a thin wire, I was hoping it would fling her back to her native state, accomplishing much the same thing as a certain tornado did with a certain house in certain movie.

If there is any change we need to see in City Hall in the upcoming election it is the replacement of some of the mayor's sycophants with people who truly represent the city and appreciate the people they represent. At the minimum they should be able to say AIDS without choking on it and not feel the need to rewrite the sexual history of those they supposedly honor. Lady Protocol's speech was an affront to those suffering from HIV and to the memory of the many friends and lovers we've lost to the disease.

Paul Buzzell
San Francisco

The Center of the matter

Thank you for covering the KQED/DuPont Pharmaceuticals "Local Heroes Awards" reception and awards presentation event [June 10].

However, under the description of honorees, I was listed as being "responsible for the inclusion of transgenders in the San Francisco civil rights ordinance in 1984." Though this is true to some extent (with the assistance of many other transgender [and non-transgender] activists), I was recognized as "local hero" for my involvement with the Southeast Asian Community Center's T-PRO (Southeast Asian Transgender AIDS Prevention Project).

Being the sole unpaid program director of a CDC-funded program administered by the San Francisco AIDS Office is a feat that I am proud of. Also serving our targeted populations, the Southeast Asian transgender, (and non-transgender) makes me proud to accept this award. Therefore, please ensure that the correction be noted as to why I had accepted the nomination of this award.

Again, I appreciate the coverage the B.A.R. reported.

Tamara Ching
Program Director, T-PRO
Southeast Asian Community Center
San Francisco

[Editor's note: We regret the omission.]

Fringe vested

At the June 10 HIV Prevention Planning Council meeting, a gentleman who sits on the panel sporting Gap wear, a fresh haircut, and expensive shoes commented, "We should not let ourselves be influenced by any fringe element in our community." The man's comment got me to thinking. Even with his trendy credit card charge-now-pay-later fashion ensemble and white skin, doesn't he realize that for the so-called mainstream in U.S. society the fact that he identifies as a homosexual makes him a member of "the fringe element."

Fifteen years of neo-conservative values has left the gay community demoralized and unable to respond to a right wing campaign that has escalated into a disturbing rash of killings. Rejecting "the fringe element" within their own community, the so-called "leadership" of the gay community continues to side with the franchise version of gayness. Going so far as to seek entry into Disneyland, there are those in this community who actually believe that a move into the virtual reality of "the mainstream" will, somehow, allow for social entry. It should be noted to the general community that whether it was the flat Earth theory, segregation, or a woman's right to choose, the people who brought on changes and initiated freedom and intellectual advancement were members of the "fringe element."

It is true, I am an artist. A Mexican surrealist poet who has spent his entire adult life hanging out on the fringes of the "fringe element" making art.

I'm not interested in going to the gym and looking like Charles Atlas. I reject the institution of marriage on principle. I have no desire to join the military. I don't watch TV or look at fashion magazines, nor do I pay much attention to the cult of celebrity, fame, and social status that is so much a part of pop culture.

Nonetheless I am still a gay man and it is my opinion that I have lived the past 15 years and survived my friends and lovers who have all died on toxic therapies precisely because HIV does not cause AIDS and I have stayed away from the so-called "AIDS drugs."

The bathhouse issue is an issue of self-determination for this community. Do we have enough confidence and power to decide to re-open the baths or are we still ruled by fear, intimidation, self-loathing and victimization? That's the question and there is no escaping it.

Ronnie Burk
San Francisco

Subject objectivity

I have been a gay activist since the early 1970s when I moved to San Francisco at the age of 18. I am concerned about the objectivity of your coverage of Michael Petrelis, David Pasquarelli, and ACT UP/SF.

I feel that obvious hatred of Pat Christen and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is influencing your coverage and overexposure of these dangerous fringe fanatics. Regardless of your opinion of Christen and the foundation, must you give legitimacy to these troubled anarchists just because you share a common hate?

Please think of the health and welfare of the community. By constantly giving them a forum they are able to perpetuate their ignorant misinformation. For example:

- That HIV doesn't cause AIDS
- PWAs should stop taking their medication
- Barebacking is good
- Safe sex is tyrannical

Most of the gay men I know think these ideas are ridiculous and dangerous, why not cover them?

Also the initiative proposed by these jerks to "Re-open the Bathhouses" is a cynical publicity stunt to gain more recognition and is also a red herring. We already have open bathhouses, they are sex clubs with showers which currently operate. What they want is completely unregulated public establishments with locked doors. You don't have to be a sociologist to deduce that with drug use on the rise coupled with normal human male sexual behavior this will lead to more unsafe sex and thus increase STDs, including AIDS, some of which will be resistant to current therapies. The Health Department has data to back this up, also, it's just common sense. Haven't we learned anything? This is political suicide. It is a divisive ballot initiative that will never pass a general election. All that it will do is make our gay male community look like selfish hedonists thus giving further ammunition to the radical religious right.

Randy Wendelin
San Francisco

[We don't buy everything they pitch, but we report on them as activists, which is what they are. Unfortunately, too many other people who call themselves "activists" forget that they need to be active in an activity to earn the title. We'd love to have more activists to report on; the sooner the better. And we don't hate Pat Christen. We might disapprove of her salary, but she's a nice lady and we don't hate her.]

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From beleaguered to big-leaguers

I think it's insensitive of the community to defend San Francisco AIDS Foundation Executive Director Pat Christen's \$183,000 salary and bonus by claiming it's comparable to salaries in other non-governmental nonprofits.

This ignores the history of the San Francisco AIDS organizations and their relationship to the communities they claim to serve. SFAF began as a volunteer response to the needs of a desperate and beleaguered minority. Those who were about to die dedicated their unpaid time to starting SFAF and organizations like it because they were truly fighting for their lives. SFAF rose on the backs of those pioneers and the countless volunteers who followed them and donated thousands of hours to the agencies.

It was inevitable that the San Francisco AIDS agencies would become professionalized. They had to in order to meet funding standards and provide consistent services. But these organizations still serve clients who are at their most vulnerable and needy. Every extra cent that goes into the pockets of administrators is money that could be used for client services and treatment.

How can a \$180,000-a-year administrator claim to speak for people living near subsistence level — or seek increased funding with a straight face when a huge chunk of the money goes into her own pocket? Anyone who accepts these huge salaries clearly feels she is another class of human being entitled to infinitely more privilege than the clients for whom she claims to speak. The fact that Christen can command such a salary doesn't mean she has to accept it. If she voluntarily returned say, 40 percent, it would be a huge step towards regaining credibility. Even an AIDS agency administrator could live on \$100,000 a year, even in San Francisco.

Ken Martin, LMFT
San Francisco

Celebrate ... and remember

This is a week to hoot and holler, kick up heels, and shout our pride and diversity from the rooftops. In these ways it isn't much different from my first Pride in San Francisco, just after I moved here in 1976. That year I regularly celebrated life on the dance floors of the I-Beam, Alfie's, the Stud, and Trocadero; I left the city just after the assassinations of Harvey Milk and George Moscone. When I returned to make the Bay Area home again in 1992, most of my dance partners were gone, and no one alive was left untouched by the devastation of AIDS.

How could a community take that deep sorrow and anger, and channel it into something that might possibly transform into hope and renewal? Over the years we have experienced the benefits of front-line and quiet activists fighting for rights, treatments, and research. But on another level, there were at least two grassroots movements that responded to the call for hope and renewal in a different way — from the heart. It is a journey of healing, hope, and remembrance that the AIDS Memorial Quilt and the National AIDS Memorial Grove have as their *raison d'être*.

The grove is an oasis of quietude in our bustling urban center. Unlike most national monuments, it's a living memorial, alive with thousands of plant species. The towering redwoods provide a cathedral-like calm, and the six stone built spaces are deliberately circular and non-hierarchical, like an embrace. Some are actually semi-circular, their wholeness interrupted as many of our own lives and embraces have been. With these attributes, the grove is a natural touchstone for emotional outpourings. This responds to many of our soul needs as we continue to lose loved ones and continue to see infections rise, learning in no uncertain terms that AIDS is still with us.

In the future the grove may respond to a different sort of need. Long after we are gone, it will be here, proclaiming to the world there was a time when an epidemic ripped apart our community. But we were not vanquished, and in fact names in the grove, like names on the quilt, are the names of heroes. These people fought the battle and, in individual and collective actions, dispelled a good deal of the stigma that surrounds AIDS. At a terrible price they have also aided in dispelling bigotry and hatred toward sexual (and other disenfranchised) minorities. In a future world without AIDS there will be some other scourge, caused by humans or nature; the grove and quilt will remind people that in practicing compassion one finds a potent antidote to the misery of prejudice.

This week is for all of us, and it would be wrong not to celebrate, not to experience the exuberance, gratitude, and liberation that the annual rite of Pride brings to our community. But it would be worse to do so without also celebrating the lives of those we have lost, paying tribute to their pioneer spirit that marked the earlier post-Stonewall years, and to affirm a future without AIDS.

Thom Weyand
Executive Director, National AIDS Memorial Grove
San Francisco

Auntie war at the parade

Last year a few radicals tried to disrupt the Privatized Prude Parade by breaking into it. Like breaking into a trap.

What now? A separate Freedom March for militants, from 18th and Castro to Dolores Park to City Hall? Or should we radicals admit the corporate conspiracy is unbeatable, and join the "Anti-war contingent" of the suits' moving market?

Tortuga Bi Liberty
San Francisco

A response from Hunger

I am writing to correct an inaccurate and misleading picture of our organization conveyed in a piece by Jim Provenzano in your June 3 issue ["Devotion over dollars"]. Regrettably, we were not contacted by either the reporter or your editors, and so we did not have an opportunity to address these errors before publication.

While we do not know whether you have fairly described the AIDS Ride, your article compares it to The Hunger Project in its very early years, 1977-79 and does not reflect at all the programs we've carried out for the last 15 years.

This is primarily because you've based your article on a web page of Carol Giambalvo, a volunteer during the early years of The Hunger Project (not, as you stated, a former employee of the organization), who appears to have based her site on extremely dated material. While many of her statements are and were inaccurate with respect to that early period, her site entirely misrepresents The Hunger Project as it is today.

Our program has evolved over time. What began as a program to mobilize grassroots awareness and commitment, has evolved into a highly respected organization doing on-the-ground work to end hunger in many of the poorest countries in the world. Through the programs of The Hunger Project, millions of people in India, Bangladesh, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America have improved their health, education, nutrition, food production, family income and the status of women.

To mention a few examples: In India, we have launched "hunger-free area programs" in more than 1200 villages across 11 states. People in these villages have constructed and run health centers, established fishing cooperatives and dozens of other projects. In Bangladesh, we have trained more than 2,000 volunteers who work across every district of the country: providing vocational training and organizing people to build schools and irrigation systems. In six countries of Africa, women are becoming literate and obtaining micro-credit from rural banks which they manage themselves.

This work is funded by the generous support of thousands of individuals around the world. Given the trust these individuals place in us, we are highly committed to our organization's integrity and reputation. We meet the highest standards for nonprofits working in international development. We are a member of InterAction, the coalition of organizations working in international relief and development, and are on the roster of the UN Economic and Social Council. For more information on The Hunger Project and its programs, please visit our website: www.thp.org.

From 1977 through 1981, we did carry out an enrollment campaign to generate a public commitment to the goal of ending hunger. Education and advocacy on hunger issues continues to be part of our program today, as public support and changed public policies are critical to ending hunger in the world. However, we have not used enrollment cards in The Hunger Project for more than a decade.

The Hunger Project has never denied that Werner Erhard is one of our principal founders. He also served as a member of our board from 1979 to 1990. As a result of his early support, and that of his organization, many of our initial staff and volunteers came from his programs. Today, only a small minority of our worldwide network of staff and volunteers has ever been associated with est or Forum programs.

We have never served as a vehicle to recruit people into any program other than our own. The Hunger Project devotes all its energy and resources to the work of ending hunger.

We regret that you have inadvertently republished Ms. Giambalvo's old, false, and misleading statements about our organization. We request that you retract these statements, and inform your readers accurately about our organization.

Dr. John Coonrod
Vice President, The Hunger Project
New York, NY

[History is history. It doesn't change. Historical accounts of Germany that include references to the Berlin Wall and the Holocaust aren't wrong simply because the wall has been taken down and the Holocaust was halted. We intended to report on how the origins of The Hunger Project and the AIDS Ride shared common characteristics. And we did. But thanks for a letter that made us laugh out loud — until we remembered, of course, that the subject at hand is hunger.]

LETTERS

A heaping helping of sulfurous flatulence, with a side of white death, please

With regard to recent arguments in the B.A.R. letters column concerning ACT UP/San Francisco's "theories" on the origins and treatments of AIDS, I have several observations about this health crisis in our community. Firstly, marijuana has been demonstrated to be an immuno-suppressant. Whatever questionable "value" it may have in stimulating appetite in cases of wasting syndrome (its only medically-indicated use in AIDS treatment) is probably offset by its long-term immune-suppressive effects. There are currently other drugs in the AIDS arsenal that reverse wasting syndrome and stimulate appetite.

I do agree with ACT UP/SF's stance with regard to drug usage and AIDS. The real culprit in our community is the plague of methamphetamine abuse. Whether a person snorts, swallows, or shoots these white powders of questionable purity, the effects on the immune system are devastating. These effects include irreparable brain damage, immuno-suppression, and weight loss due to appetite suppression. Factor in the extraordinarily high levels of alcoholism in our community and it becomes small wonder that legions of gay and bisexual men suffer from diarrhea, weight loss, and immune suppression.

My boyfriend of 15 years weighs less than 100 lbs. (at 5 feet 8 inches), has a raging case of Kaposi's sarcoma, diarrhea for over three months continuously, thrush, and his hair is falling out. At 37, he now has what has come to be known as "the look," which is unmistakable to queer eyes: the skin of his face is stretched so tightly that his skull is clearly visible. And what was once a really cute ass is now no ass at all! For as long as I've known him, he has been a practicing alcoholic, speed freak, marijuana addict, and male prostitute. Why am I not surprised that he is now dying of AIDS?

The final factor in this debilitating equation is nutrition! What most queers (especially queer men) know about proper nutrition could be written on the back of a matchbook! Greasy fried foods, hamburgers, french fries, and milkshakes do not constitute a healthy diet! Whole grains, fresh vegetables, fresh raw fruits, dairy products (without bovine growth hormone), and low-cholesterol meats (chicken, turkey, and fish) with little or no caffeine, soft drinks, and sugar (white death) is a *minimal healthful diet*. The nutritional value of pizza is virtually zip. And eggs are not only high in cholesterol, but also putrefy in the intestines, leading to sulfurous flatulence. A really healthy diet is also rich in live foods (i.e., sprouts, wheatgrass juice, Essene breads, etc.). Burrito emporiums, where the "food" is kept warm on a steam table, offer virtually zero nutrition but plenty of empty calories. A body "nurtured" on junk food and empty calories is a body ripe for immune system collapse.

I find it strangely ironic that ACT UP/San Francisco gives all this lip service to the role of drug abuse in AIDS development while they sell, at profit, a drug that has been proven to suppress the immune system! Hey guys, do you see a bit of hypocrisy in this? Finally, I gave up getting butt-fucked in 1983, when it became pretty obvious that bottoms got AIDS more often than tops! As of this date, I am (still) HIV-negative. Barebackers beware!

John S. Connelly III
San Francisco

Hey, Marcus, you forgot a dish

It is interesting to note that although Mr. Marcus pedantically pens the results of nearly every out-of-town fundraiser, and recanted "dish" from every corner of IML, he neglected a major fundraising effort by San Francisco businesses. To wit: For the second year in a row, major funds, in excess of \$5,000, were raised at the San Francisco Party at IML. This year, more than \$5,200 was raised and goes directly to Positive Resources here in San Francisco.

Marcus whined, in an article published before IML, that he "was not invited" to this public event and that he was not surprised since "Arthur Kassman" was involved. Last year, Marcus grumbled to those extending an invitation for him to attend that "he was far too busy" to grace us with his presence. For the record Marcus, and any other person wishing to contribute, is cordially invited to attend any public event I sponsor or am involved with.

Since the San Francisco Party was co-sponsored by Daddy's and the Edge, he allows his personal vendetta with me to overshadow the heroic deeds to these two businesses. Additionally, other San Francisco merchants made significant contributions and Marcus only injures his journalistic integrity by ignoring those locals whose effort at a major international event produced significant funds, and mountains of good will, for the San Francisco leather community.

Russell (aka "Arthur") Kassman
San Francisco

[Marcus was judging the competition at the time you mention. Don't take it personally, whatever your name is.]

Tom-cat's meow

Lee Schoenbart's attack on Tom Ammiano's possible candidacy for mayor is short-sighted ("Vote the rascals out" June 10 letters). In the last few years, many people (myself included) have vigorously disagreed with Tom over particular issues. However, all of us need to step back and take a look at the bigger picture whenever an election rolls around.

We have to understand the great importance of supporting up-front, progressive lesbians and gay men when they run for higher office, especially when they have a reasonable chance of being elected. Otherwise, our factional disputes will impede our advance as a community. In fact, by failing to unite at election times, we may cause ourselves terrible lasting damage, as the history of the gay and lesbian movement has repeatedly shown (see the new book *Out for Good* by Dudley Clendenin and Adam Nagourney).

Let's make our peace with Tom while he considers whether to run for mayor, and support him if he does enter the race. Then, after the election, we can all raise hell over the particular issues that are important to us as individuals. But at times like this, the overall well-being of our community should come first.

This coin also has a side for Tom. He needs to stop viewing his various critics on particular issues as personal enemies. That sort of bunker mentality won't do if he wants to win a big election. Now more than ever, he needs to heed his critics and broaden his base.

Let's all work together this coming election for the sake of our common good.

Arthur Evans
San Francisco

Tom-turkey

Lee Schoenbart is right on target - Tom Ammiano is an embarrassment to our community. I am *not* a Willie Brown fan and wish that the gay community had an effective leader to replace Da Mayor. However, anyone who thinks Ammiano can provide leadership to the city of San Francisco is out of touch with reality. The only reason I would want to see Tom run is that if he runs, there is no doubt he will get his butt kicked, big time. And maybe that would put an end to his misguided political career.

Brian Geiger
San Francisco

Tom-thumbs up

As a resident of the Castro for the past four years, I am getting fed up with my interests being supposedly represented by people such as Lee Schoenbart.

Contrary to his assertions, most residents do not find Supervisor Ammiano an "embarrassment to the community," or else he wouldn't have been voted president of the Board of Supervisors. While I don't agree with the supervisor on a variety of topics, I feel he represents the interests of *all* San Franciscans, with the city's best interests in mind.

I have often seen Supervisor Ammiano getting coffee at various Castro coffeehouses; I have worked out with Supervisor Katz at the Market Street Gym; I have talked with Supervisor Leno while he was walking down Castro. The point is that our supervisors frequent the neighborhood, and I'm proud to see them every time. If people like Lee Schoenbart would ever open their eyes (as well as their minds) when they were in the Castro, they might just notice them.

In addition, I witnessed all three supervisors in the Castro numerous times prior to the temporary shelter that was at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center opening. Also, to refute the assertion that it was forced down the neighborhood's throat, I was at one of the several public hearings called to present the facts, and for the community to air concerns. The public was given ample opportunity to voice their concerns and wishes for the shelter. Concerns were heard and addressed, and the shelter was an incredible success. As a person whose home was less than a block away, I was most pleased that there were rarely, if ever, problems with the shelter, or those who utilized it. In fact, it was a model for others to emulate.

Marc Gofstein
San Francisco

Karr krazed

The B.A.R. has a very special talent and resource in your porn reviewer, John Karr. After checking out his three most recent recommendations (*Stuffed, French Connections*, and *Little Havana*), for me he scores 100 percent as a recommender of hot videos.

My thanks go to B.A.R. for having this column and I propose that B.A.R. initiate a Pendulous Pecker Prize (or, as the lesbian/gay business people might term it, the Prestigious Phallic Presentation or obscurantists might prefer Pancratic Penis Panegyric) by awarding it to John Karr for his important role in nourishing cock worship here and so contributing to making SF a gay Mecca.

Richard Cornwall
San Francisco

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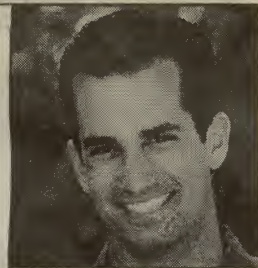
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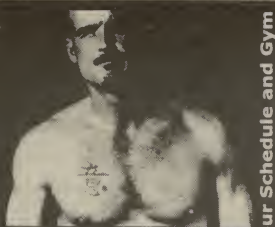
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It seems to me we had all better come out. Our numbers would possibly drive the haters into shock, and we may prevent another crucifixion.

Like it or not, we are all in this together. If you do not like what you are, how can you love anyone else? If friends do not like what you are, they are not your friends.

If you are still in the closet, in a way you are almost asking for trouble. You are probably not fooling anyone.

Chuck Kennedy
San Francisco**Yes, but ... no butts**

I will be the first to admit that America has a political correctness problem. I will be the first to admit that we also have a huge problem defining boundaries of privacy and personal freedom. I am also appalled at the ways in which we invade each other's personal lives and try to protect people from themselves. I would be one of the first to advocate legalization of all drugs and decriminalization of all victimless crimes. But Mick Stevens is way off base with his ridiculous diatribe about "No-Smoke Police" on Polk Street. He is in good company with other defenders of the tobacco industry like Jesse Helms. Like Helms he turns the truth around to make black white and good evil. His parallels remind me of Helms's idea that gays ask for special rights instead of equality. So yes, Mick, I too am getting sick of the weekly braying about Smoke on Polk. As a person with asthma who has developed respiratory disease because of secondhand smoke in gay bars, I would like to draw a parallel of my own. How would you and all of the other die-hard smokers like it if I took you out into the ocean and held your head under the water? How would it feel if I laughed at you and told you it is normal to breathe under water, as you gasp for air in a moment when you feel like you are dying?

Perhaps the law banning smoke in public places was passed more easily because of the political correctness hysteria in California. But unlike many of the other issues thrown under that banner, the smoke free law is fair. Smoking in public is not a personal choice. It is time to admit that other people are harmed. Smokers need to take responsibility for their smoke and the real harm it does to others. If you are too lazy to walk outside, then perhaps you need to seek counseling and give it up. I have spent the last two winters in California and for the first time in my adult life I have had no asthma attacks, no bronchial infections, and have had to take no antibiotics. There are many parallels that can be made to the smoke-free law that make sense. For example, you can eat in restaurants in California and most likely not be infected with hepatitis or amoebic dysentery or bacterial infections. The law against smoking in public places is a law that bans cigarettes not people. I now have the right to go everywhere and will fight to keep that right. Read the polls. More than 80 percent of Californians are non-smokers. Unlike the fight for gay and lesbian rights, we have the numbers on our side and we will prevail in spite of the ignorance of a few.

Robert Starkey
San Francisco**Facing the firing squad with a smoke**

Okay, one last time, since you won't let it drop, I haven't seen this much naked rage and unbridled hatred explode since St. Judy died or Dan White got away with murder. Here's the top 10 list of persons upon whom to dump 17 years of HIV horror and death; a lifetime of unrequited love; being the whipping boy for your family, government, and church; and having the officials you voted for laugh in your face and knife you in the gay back. It is your legal right to vilify, castigate, persecute, spit upon and just plain have a good old fashioned hate/rage hissy dump upon:

10. International arms/drug dealers;
9. Veal eaters/Fur wearers (a tie);
8. Wife/spouse beaters;
7. Straight men with guns in the Castro;
6. Homeless in the Castro;
5. Those who are sick and tired of #6;
4. Queer bashers/murderers;
3. Members of NAMBLA/Rock'n'Roll/Non-Clones (three-way tie);
2. Mass murderers/child rapists (surprise, Agnes, another tie!);

And, the number one most hated and easy to scream at and write letters to the editor about, the one who, for the first time, tops that list of the lowest scum on earth:

A fucking guy having a fucking cigarette in a fucking bar on fucking Polk Strasse.

Thanx for making me Numero Uno in your book. I will try for the next year of my reign to make you proud of me, and I will fight to stay number one in your hearts and in your bars. Smooches,

Mick Stephens
San Francisco**Fag mag slash**

I recall an article from last year about the marketing and selling of gay pride, and this year I can find no sadder example than "The Official Magazine for San Francisco Pride." Foreigners (Brits) and foreign entertainers fill this 300-page advertorial published in New York, printed in Wisconsin, and that has very little to do with the fabulous city of San Francisco. More than 50 percent of the contributors were from out of state or out of the country.

"Proud Legacy, Powerful Future" was a great title for "30 Years of Pride in San Francisco," but two half-pages of copy turned what should have been an incredible tribute feature into an embarrassment—a duotone of men in red and orange above scant copy. This was followed by Gilbert Baker's article patting himself on the back once again for creating the rainbow flag, which he did not, he merely borrowed the idea from another culture. (Does anyone remember the self-aggrandizing Cleve Jones and the ensuing tumult around the quilt?)

Then there are the former superstars, Boy George and Diana Ross. Give George O'Dowd credit for always being out there, but wasn't he supposed to headline last year's event in the city? Instead of groveling at Ross's feet with the usual sugary tribute, the publishers should have inquired about her lack of involvement in fundraising to fight AIDS. After all, the straight community isn't buying her music.

This L-B-T that is tacked on to everything homosexual is becoming more ludicrous with every addition to the acronym. Where is the "D" for drag queen? It wasn't some bi-guy or transgendered person who led the Stonewall Riots in 1969. Where is the "J" for Judy? Garland committed suicide that day. All this political correctness is ridiculous.

For the truly liberated, "gay" has always included what the rest of society considered it's castoffs—all the queers and sissies and fat dykes of every color, persuasion, and challenge. There was a time when being gay and celebrating our freedom was a lively event without the pall of community dissension cast over us for one day. Doesn't anyone remember when it was all-inclusive enough to refer to this annual celebration as Gay Freedom Day? As Martha Reeves's record blared from the jukebox at the Stonewall Inn back in 1969, "It doesn't matter who you are, just as long as you are there ..."

Jeff Wilson
San Francisco

[A few corrections, if we may: Judy died that week, but not that night. And Martha sang "It doesn't matter what you wear ...". Perhaps what the Pride magazine needs is a history column.]

'Watch' stemming

I have recently read in the *SF Chronicle* and saw an ad in the *Bay Area Reporter* concerning a ballot initiative drive to reopen the gay bathhouses in San Francisco conducted by "Health Watch." Like many gays in San Francisco I'm strongly opposed to the reopening of the gay bathhouses.

Over the years I have seen many friends die of AIDS and I have contributed a lot of money to AIDS prevention and care groups. Most of the first people that I knew who died of AIDS were those who frequently went to the gay bathhouses where unsafe sex was the order of the day. The notion that somehow things will be different is difficult to imagine. The idea that bathhouses are an ideal place for safe sex education is hilarious. Talking with friends who live in cities where there are still gay bathhouses such "education" efforts are at best a bad joke.

I certainly do not remember the HotHouse, Hard-Ball Express, Rich Street Baths, The Boot Camp, or the Suro Baths ever doing any sort of safe sex education efforts nor contributing much of anything to the gay community.

Why is "Health Watch" pursuing this ballot initiative when there isn't unified support for reopening the baths among the gay community much less the straight community? I don't know anyone who supports this initiative. There are certainly more important issues for the gay community in San Francisco than reopening bathhouses.

One question that comes to mind is who is funding "Health Watch," the ballot initiative gathering process, and full page ads in the *Bay Area Reporter*? Could it possibly be people who want to make "big bucks" opening bathhouses? I have not seen any benefits or solicitations for contributions to this effort and I certainly hope none of the contributions I've made to AIDS prevention groups is going to "Health Watch."

I have also written a letter to Dr. Mitchell Katz at the DPH expressing my support for his stand against reopening the gay baths.

Jim Ellingsen
San Francisco

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Bill Bradley takes on California

by Wayne Friday

For me, there's only one reason to run for president of the United States," **Bill Bradley** told a listener in San Francisco last week who asked him why he was doing it. "That's because you think your leadership could improve the quality of life for millions of Americans; I look at my situation and think ability matches the moment."

Bradley, the former pro basketball player who later served three terms in the United States Senate, may think this is "the moment" for his candidacy, but few others probably got that feeling after he completed a 10-day visit to California last week. The Democrats' only alternative to **Al Gore**, Bradley shook hundreds of hands, made countless low-profile interviews on



Our Man Friday



Bill Bradley as a jock

radio and television stations, gave numerous newspaper interviews, and picked up donations topping \$1 million, but a local political reporter probably summed him up best after following him through the trip, by saying, "Bill Bradley is a nice guy, but a non-skilled campaigner on the stump — one of the worst I've covered, in fact."

At times, Bradley's voice was so soft in front of crowds (mostly small; during a Saturday appearance in San Francisco's Potrero Hill District, fewer than 30 residents showed up) that his wife constantly urged listeners to "scoot in closer" to hear what the candidate had to say.

I met Bradley briefly during a San Francisco stop last week, and while I don't doubt that he's a nice guy, I also don't think his candidacy is giving Gore's people much to worry about. Indeed, I have to agree with the longtime political activist who commented after the Potrero Hill gathering that "the guy has a command of the issues, and appears as sincere as anyone would want in a president, but damn, he is probably the only national politician whose public style is duller than Al Gore's."

Speaking of Gore, the veep had a very good week politically — he made his candidacy formal with a Tennessee announcement that almost equaled the previous week's announcement by **George W. Bush**, and he also successfully put distance between himself and President **Bill Clinton** by deftly offering voters a continuation of the president's popular policies

without the problems of Clinton's personal scandals. (Whenever asked, and sometimes without prompting, he calls the president's sexual dalliance with **Monica Lewinsky** "inexcusable.") Whatever he's doing, it's paying off: 49 percent of California men who took part in a recent poll prefer Gore, while 30 percent like Bradley. And Gore may be manly,

yes, but women like him too: he lead Bradley among California women by a whopping 62 percent to 21 percent.

Meanwhile, although Bradley reportedly had a meeting in Southern California with "gay and lesbian leaders" during his recent

statewide tour, it was Gore — a longtime upfront supporter of gay rights — who scored big during a visit that he and his wife made to a town hall meeting in Los Angeles. As Fairfax High School teenager **Jessie Funes** spoke movingly from the audience about being pushed nearly to suicide by "horrific" treatment from peers who objected to her lesbianism, the young woman then broke down in tears. Gore, obviously moved by the girl's remarks and loss of composure, left the lectern from which he was speaking, walked to where she stood in the middle of the gymnasium, and embraced her. The crowd applauded loudly. When Gore finally returned to the lecture, he endorsed legislation that was sponsored by lesbian Assemblywoman **Sheila Kuehl** (but defeated by one vote) that would have banned discrimination against gay students in public schools. **Tipper Gore**, standing next to the vice president, was obviously moved by the girl's tears, and said to her, "Jessie, thank you for your courage."

Barring a catastrophe of unthinkable proportions, California is "Gore Country" among Democrats. Nice guy Bradley will finish last and his recent visit to the state probably did himself little good — or did Gore little harm.

Meanwhile, although "Junior" Bush continues to lead Gore in all national polls, the Republicans running against Bush for the nomination are just getting warmed up, and Gore can only benefit when they likely beat the Texas governor's brains out during the primary season. In fact, the veep already looks much better politically than he did barely two weeks ago, and with the Republicans in Congress continually shooting themselves in their feet — like the red-hot gun control issue they handed the Democrats last week and with the late Washington rumor that Gore might end up with Bradley his veep running mate in 2000 (unless the Republicans nominate a woman veep for their ticket; they hold their convention before the Democrats in 2000) — I don't think **Laura Bush** (Bush's wife) should start measuring the White House windows for drapes quite yet.

(Don't, by the way, look for Bush to buck the NRA on gun control; as governor of Texas he recently signed one bill that would ban citizens of the Lone Star state from suing gun makers, and another bill allowing Texans

to carry concealed weapons.)

While I would agree with most of the pundits of both parties that both Gore and Bush have their parties' nominations all but locked up, I don't agree that George W. will be headed for the White House in January of 2001. Barring a huge mistake by the Gore camp, the vice president probably will have to be considered the favorite by the time the November 2000 elections roll around.

I know a lot of political prognosticators — Democrat and Republican alike — would certainly disagree with that, but that's how I see it.



Ed Flanagan as a jock

Politics and people

Vermont State Auditor **Ed Flanagan**, the nation's first openly gay statewide elected official, would become the first elected homosexual U.S. senator if he defeats the GOP incumbent (who won with only 51 percent of the vote in the 1994 election, and who is currently favored by only 42 percent of that state's voters) and Flanagan's a guy who has shown he's got the guts, grit, and stamina to succeed: after all, he was an All-Ivy League defensive end at the University of Pennsylvania in the class of 1973. Flanagan says he is looking forward to joining the U.S. Congress' gay/lesbian caucus (currently two gay men and one lesbian) after next year's general election, and even national GOP congressional strategists now give Flanagan at least an even chance of unseating the Republican next year, what with big-name Dems like Representative **Barney Frank**, Senator **Ted Kennedy**, House Minority Leader **Dick Gephardt**, and others supporting his candidacy. Wanna contribute to the cause? Send checks to Flanagan for Senator, P.O. Box 209, Burlington, VT 05402.

Also in that neck of the woods — but on the other side of every divide from Flanagan — D.C. insiders say that anti-gay conservative New Hampshire Senator **Bob Smith**, who is seeking the GOP presidential nomination, is expected to abandon the Republican Party and seek the nomination of another party's banner. (Smith says his party has "drifted from its conservative roots.")

National politics: last Thursday's *New York Times* carried a feature story, photo and all, on San Francisco Supervisor **Tom Ammi**, with the headline, "Die-Hard Liberal Soars In a City Left of Center." (But even Tom's friends are getting a bit tired of his indecision on the upcoming mayor's race).

Frank Jordan's friends are as-

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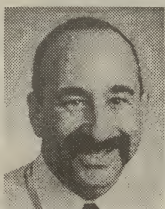
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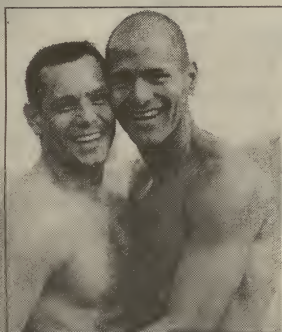
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Proud b(u)y definition

by Nancy Boutilier

This year's Parade theme, "Proud Heritage, Powerful Future," invites a look back on history as well as ahead to the next century of pride. With 28 years of gay parading behind us in San Francisco and three national marches under our collective activist belts, it's still worth asking how far have we come? where are we going? and, most importantly, who will our corporate sponsors be?

Counting back to what we claim as our first parade/march down Polk Street, we find that pride originally marked the anniversary of the Stonewall riots, an event of grassroots resistance that, as far as I can tell, had absolutely no corporate sponsorship ... which does not guarantee that someone somewhere isn't hard at work on an Absolut Stonewall ad for the back of some gay glossy.

Nevertheless, a Proud Heritage it is! San Francisco's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community – though not always so precisely and fully named – has fought many a good fight to get us where we are today. Leading the way in gay and lesbian visibility, San Francisco was named the “gay capital” of America by *Life* magazine back in 1964. Not only did early community members protest police brutality and bar raids, but they also organized softball games against the police force to help forge tolerance and friendship where there had been little. And often the gay softball teams won! At most, sponsorship came from the local gay bars who helped pay for the uniforms.

San Francisco gave birth to many a trend-setting – and agenda setting – institution: the Daughters of Bilitis, the Society for Individual Rights, the Metropolitan Community Church, the Gay Games, LYRIC, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, and the Lesbian Avengers, to name a few.

Our "proud heritage" includes not only the pioneering spirit of out candidates, but also many of the earliest publicly elected gay and lesbian officials, including Harvey Milk, and the Achtenberg-Ammiano-Migden trio of the Lavender Sweep. Our gay legislators and their justice-minded straight colleagues have achieved many policy firsts, like domestic partners registration and anti-discrimination statutes.

So here's a proverbial pat on the back to our queer pioneers, worthy of at least three cheers for pride before we move on to the second half of the equation: our Powerful Future.

Perhaps our staying power will be what folks remember most. Maybe our electoral clout. There's always our decorativeness and dance prowess. But, a look at the "official" Pride Guide, which claims on the cover to be my "only complete source of information to the 29th Annual Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Parade and Celebration" offers a variety of ways to view our powerful future. On the cover two boys of summer mug at the camera above a little rainbow flag at the bottom of the page ... oops, silly me, that was no simple flag. That was the Bud Light logo designed to mark our corporate sponsorship. Wow, how flattering that Anheuser-Busch would want



to splash their name around with Harry Hay and dykes on bikes.

In the end, the power that may define our generation is our purchasing power. There is at least one other guide booklet, not "official" but just as glossy. Mostly the same info, just different advertisements.

Coors boycott days, but I do not measure progress by the sponsorship dollars taken in.

A local, community-based brewing company tried to strike back by running this ad campaign: "we couldn't af-

tomy ford to be the official beer of The Lesbian Gay Bi and Transgender Pride, so we'll proudly be the official beer of Queer Pride."

Go ahead, call me a communist, but I do not measure political progress by the number of alcoholic beverages or other products willing to brand themselves "Queer" or "Gay" — though I'm sure I'd be the first to order something called "Butch Beer" if it was available on tap.

Okay, call me a hypocrite, but it was Walt Whitman who wrote "Do I contradict myself? Very well then, I contradict myself; I am large, I contain multitudes." So too, does our community, I suppose. But, come on, tennis tournaments have sponsors, rock concerts have sponsors, but should a movement? Can a revolution come with a registered trademark?

We do already have our own brand of bottled water. Can our cigarettes be far behind? Lesbian Luckies or Dyke Strykes for the bi-labial smoke. For the guys, it's simply Fag Fags.

I admit that when I first saw a Muni bus carrying that car ad with the mock vanity license plates – CAMP OUT, P-TOWN-IE, and XENA LVER, complete with rainbow flag and a Human Rights Campaign logo – my first reaction was “Wow! A car company that embracing of who I am, with wit, not less. That must be the vehicle for me!”

My more considered response had me wondering what it meant that queer existence can be so visible and so actively affirmed in advertising campaigns, when so inflammatory in political campaigns. Will our "Powerful Future" be rooted in our buying power, our consumer community? What does it mean that our consumer demands have been met more quickly than our political demands?

Twenty years ago, at the 1979 March on Washington, the year of

my high school graduation, Holly Near lead the crowd in "We are a gentle, angry people." Today, it sometimes seems, we are a partying, purchasing people."

While our predecessors planted demands for, among other things, a national gay rights bill, the repeal of all anti-gay laws, an end to the ban on gays and lesbians in the military and in the federal government, 20 years later we have not brought those seeds to fruition.

Instead, we have that glossy color photo of two muscled forearms entwined, bare-torso men holding hands above the catchy little caption "Be yourself and make it a Bud Light." We have earned the right to see our flag appropriated into a registered trademark for a beer company. Are we so inebriated by the attention marketers have paid us that we have forgotten about our own political goals? Have we settled for less filling, tastes great? Make it a Political Movement Light.

If we have, then that's quite a high price to pay. What happened to the anger in our gentle angry people? That our demands have reached their 20th birthday without being met should be of some concern ... and it's not as if we haven't visited Washington on two other occasions to remind the string pullers what we want and when we want it *now!*

Right-wingers like to make a big deal of the so-called gay agenda, but they seem to know more about it than we do! We've been so busily marketing ourselves or being marketed to with Pride This and Queer That, that we've overlooked the fact that we do not have equal protection under the law, the right to marry, the right to serve ...

But we do have the right to bare arms (if they are muscular enough) in a light beer ad.

The cops may not be beating us up – if we are white and gay – but there are still lots of others out there willing to do violence against us.

Maybe next year's theme will be a line taken from Jane Austen: *Pride and Prejudice* because that seems to be the state of affairs. Being proud does not make us safe. Being proud does not guarantee that judges or adoption agencies will see us as fit parents. Being proud does not allow us to get that wedding certificate that allows our foreign-born lovers to join us in the land of the heterosexual free and the home of the brave who challenge the status quo.

Let's be proud and stay proud.
But maybe it's time to be a gentle,
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INDICATIONS AND USAGE: COMBIVIR is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection.

Description of Clinical Studies: COMBIVIR: There have been no clinical trials conducted with COMBIVIR. See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY for information about bioequivalence. One COMBIVIR Tablet given twice a day is an alternative regimen to EPVIR Tablets 150 mg twice a day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day in divided doses.

Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine: The NUC3007 (CAESAR) study was conducted using EPVIR 150-mg Tablets (150 mg b.i.d.) and RETROVIR 100-mg Capsules (2 x 100 mg b.i.d.). CAESAR was a multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled study comparing continued current therapy (zidovudine alone [62% of patients] or zidovudine with didanosine or zalcitabine [38% of patients]) to the addition of EPVIR or EPVIR plus an investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor, randomized 1:2:1. A total of 1816 HIV-infected adults with 25 to 250 (median 122) CD4 cells/mm³ at baseline were enrolled; median age was 36 years, 87% were male, 84% were nucleoside-experienced, and 16% were therapy-naïve. The median duration on study was 12 months. Results are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of Patients (%) With At Least One HIV Disease-Progression Event or Death

Endpoint	Current Therapy (n = 460)	EPVIR plus Current Therapy (n = 896)	EPVIR plus a NNRTI* plus Current Therapy (n = 460)
HIV progression or death	90 (19.6%)	86 (9.6%)	41 (8.9%)
Death	27 (5.9%)	23 (2.6%)	14 (3.0%)

*An investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor not approved in the United States.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: COMBIVIR Tablets are contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of the components of the product.

WARNINGS: COMBIVIR is a fixed-dose combination of lamivudine and zidovudine. Ordinarily, COMBIVIR should not be administered concomitantly with either lamivudine or zidovudine.

The complete prescribing information for all agents being considered for use with COMBIVIR should be consulted before combination therapy with COMBIVIR is initiated.

Bone Marrow Suppression: COMBIVIR should be used with caution in patients who have bone marrow compromise evidenced by granulocyte count <1000 cells/mm³ or hemoglobin <9.5 g/dL (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Frequent blood counts are strongly recommended in patients with advanced HIV disease who are treated with COMBIVIR. For HIV-infected individuals and patients with asymptomatic or early HIV disease, periodic blood counts are recommended.

Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including lamivudine, zidovudine, and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. Particular caution should be exercised when administering COMBIVIR to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with COMBIVIR should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations).

Myopathy: Myopathy and myositis, with pathological changes similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of zidovudine, and therefore may occur with therapy with COMBIVIR.

PRECAUTIONS:

General: Reduction of doses of lamivudine is recommended for patients with low body weight (less than 50 kg or 110 lb); therapy with low body weight should not receive COMBIVIR.

Patients With HIV and Hepatitis B Virus Coinfection: In clinical trials and postmarketing experience, some patients with HIV infection who have chronic liver disease due to hepatitis B virus infection experienced clinical or laboratory evidence of recurrent hepatitis upon discontinuation of lamivudine. Consequences may be more severe in patients with decompensated liver disease.

Patients With Impaired Renal Function: Reduction of the dosages of lamivudine and zidovudine is recommended for patients with impaired renal function. Patients with creatinine clearance <50 mL/min should not receive COMBIVIR.

Information for Patients: COMBIVIR is not a cure for HIV infection and patients may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised that the use of COMBIVIR has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the major toxicities of COMBIVIR are neutropenia and/or anemia. They should be told of the extreme importance of having their blood counts followed closely while on therapy, especially for patients with advanced HIV disease. Patients should be advised of the importance of taking COMBIVIR as it is prescribed.

Drug Interactions: Coadministration of ganciclovir, interferon- α , and other bone marrow suppressive or cytotoxic agents may increase the hematologic toxicity of zidovudine (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of full prescribing information).

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: Carcinogenicity:

Lamivudine: Lamivudine long-term carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats showed no evidence of carcinogenic potential at exposures up to 10 times (mice) and 58 times (rats) those observed in humans at the recommended therapeutic dose.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was administered orally at three dosage levels to separate groups of mice and rats (60 females and 60 males in each group). Initial single daily doses were 30, 60, and 120 mg/kg per day in mice and 30, 220, and 600 mg/kg per day in rats. The doses in mice were reduced to 20, 30, and 40 mg/kg per day after day 90 because of treatment-related anemia, whereas in rats only the high dose was reduced to 450 mg/kg per day on day 91 and then to 300 mg/kg per day on day 279.

In mice, seven late-appearing (after 19 months) vaginal neoplasms (five nonmetastasizing squamous cell carcinomas, one squamous cell papilloma, and one squamous polyp) occurred in animals given the highest dose. One late-appearing squamous cell papilloma occurred in the vagina of a middle-dose animal. No vaginal tumors were found at the lowest dose.

In rats, two late-appearing (after 20 months), nonmetastasizing vaginal squamous cell carcinomas occurred in animals given the highest dose. No vaginal tumors occurred at the low or middle dose in rats. No other drug-related tumors were observed in either sex of either species.

At doses that produced tumors in mice and rats, the estimated drug exposure (as measured by AUC) was approximately three times (mice) and 24 times (rat) the estimated human exposure at the recommended therapeutic dose of 100 mg every 4 hours.

Two transplacental carcinogenicity studies were conducted in mice. One study administered zidovudine at doses of 20 mg/kg per day or 40 mg/kg per day from gestation day 10 through parturition and lactation with dosing continuing in offspring for 24 months postnatally. The doses of zidovudine employed in this study produced zidovudine exposures approximately three times the estimated human exposure at recommended doses. After 24 months, at the highest dose, an increase in incidence of vaginal tumors was noted with no increase in tumors in the liver or lung or any other organ in either gender. These findings are consistent with results of the standard oral carcinogenicity study in mice, as described earlier. A second study administered zidovudine at maximum tolerated doses of 12.5 mg/day or 25 mg/day (~1000 mg/kg nonpregnant body weight or ~450 mg/kg of term body weight) to pregnant mice from days 12 through 18 of gestation. There was an increase in the number of tumors in the liver, lung, and female reproductive tracts in the offspring of mice receiving the higher dose level of zidovudine.

It is not known how predictive the results of rodent carcinogenicity studies may be for humans.

Mutagenicity: Lamivudine: Lamivudine was negative in a microbial mutagenicity screen, in an in vitro cell transformation assay, in a rat micronucleus test, in a rat bone marrow cytogenetic assay, and in an assay for unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat liver. It was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay and clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay, positive in an in vitro cell transformation assay, clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes, and positive in mouse and rat micronucleus tests after repeated doses. It was negative in a cytogenetic study in rats given a single dose.

Impairment of Fertility: Lamivudine: In a study of reproductive performance, lamivudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, revealed no evidence of impaired fertility (judged by conception rates) and no effect on the survival, growth, and development to weaning of the offspring.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 7 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, had no effect on fertility judged by conception rates.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C.

COMBIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine/zidovudine tablets): There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of COMBIVIR in pregnant women. Reproduction studies with lamivudine and zidovudine have been performed in animals (see Lamivudine and Zidovudine sections below). COMBIVIR should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Lamivudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered lamivudine have been performed in rats and rabbits at 130 and 60 times, respectively, the usual adult dose (based on relative body surface area) and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. Some evidence of early embryolethality was seen in the rabbit at doses similar to those produced by the usual adult dose and higher, but there was no indication of this effect in the rat at orally administered doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose. Studies in pregnant rats and rabbits showed that lamivudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta.

Zidovudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered zidovudine in the rat and in the rabbit at doses up to 500 mg/kg per day revealed no evidence of teratogenicity with zidovudine. Zidovudine treatment resulted in embryofetal toxicity as evidenced by an increase in the incidence of fetal resorptions in rats given 150 or 450 mg/kg per day and rabbits given 500 mg/kg per day. The doses used in the teratology studies resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations (after one-half of the daily dose) in rats 66 to 226 times, and in rabbits 12 to 87 times, mean steady-state peak human plasma concentrations (after one-sixth of the daily dose) achieved with the recommended daily dose (100 mg every 4 hours). In an additional teratology study in rats, a dose of 3000 mg/kg per day (very near the oral median lethal dose in rats of 3683 mg/kg) caused marked maternal toxicity and an increase in the incidence of fetal malformations. This dose resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations 350 times peak human plasma concentrations. No evidence of teratogenicity was seen in this experiment at doses of 600 mg/kg per day or less. Two rodent carcinogenicity studies were conducted (see Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility).

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to COMBIVIR and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263.

Nursing Mothers: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breastfeed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

COMBIVIR: Zidovudine is excreted in breast milk (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics: Nursing Mothers subsection of full prescribing information); however, no data are available on COMBIVIR or lamivudine. Therefore, there is a potential for adverse effects in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed not to breastfeed if they are receiving COMBIVIR.

Pediatric Use: COMBIVIR should not be administered to pediatric patients less than 12 years of age because it is a fixed-dose combination that cannot be adjusted for this patient population.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine Administered As Separate Formulations: In four randomized, controlled trials of EPVIR 300 mg per day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day, the following selected clinical and laboratory adverse events were observed (see Tables 2 and 3).

Table 2: Selected Clinical Adverse Events (>5% Frequency) in Four Controlled Clinical Trials With EPVIR 300 mg/day and RETROVIR 600 mg/day

Adverse Event	EPVIR plus RETROVIR (n = 251)
Body as a whole	
Headache	35%
Malaise & fatigue	27%
Fever or chills	10%
Digestive	
Nausea	33%
Diarrhea	18%
Nausea & vomiting	13%
Anorexia and/or decreased appetite	10%
Abdominal pain	9%
Abdominal cramps	6%
Dyspepsia	5%
Nervous system	
Neuropathy	12%
Insomnia & other sleep disorders	11%
Dizziness	10%
Depressive disorders	9%
Respiratory	
Nasal signs & symptoms	20%
Cough	18%
Skin	
Skin rashes	9%
Musculoskeletal	
Musculoskeletal pain	12%
Myalgia	8%
Arthralgia	5%

Pancreatitis was observed in three of the 656 adult patients (<0.5%) who received EPVIR in controlled clinical trials.

Selected laboratory abnormalities observed during therapy are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Frequencies of Selected Laboratory Abnormalities Among Adults in Four Controlled Clinical Trials of EPVIR 300 mg/day plus RETROVIR 600 mg/day*

Test (Abnormal Level)	EPVIR plus RETROVIR % (n)
Neutropenia (ANC<750/mm ³)	7.2% (237)
Anemia (Hgb<8.0 g/dL)	2.9% (241)
Thrombocytopenia (platelets<50,000/mm ³)	0.4% (240)
ALT (>5.0 x ULN)	3.7% (241)
AST (>5.0 x ULN)	1.7% (241)
Bilirubin (>2.5 x ULN)	0.8% (241)
Amplase (>2.0 x ULN)	4.2% (72)

ULN = Upper limit of normal.

ANC = Absolute neutrophil count.

n = Number of patients assessed.

*Frequencies of these laboratory abnormalities were higher in patients with mild laboratory abnormalities at baseline.

Disseminated During Clinical Practice: In addition to adverse events reported from clinical trials, the following events have been identified during post-approval use of EPVIR and/or RETROVIR. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to a combination of their seriousness, frequency of reporting, or potential causal connection to EPVIR and/or RETROVIR.

Endocrine and Metabolic: Hyperglycemia.

General: Sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis), vasculitis.

Hepatobiliary Tract and Pancreas: Lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), pancreatitis.

Musculoskeletal: Muscle weakness, CPK elevation, rhabdomyolysis.

Nervous: Seizures.

Skin: Alopecia, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, urticaria.

DVERDDSSAGE:

COMBIVIR: There is no known antidote for COMBIVIR.

Lamivudine: One case of an adult ingesting 6 grams of lamivudine was reported; there were no clinical signs or symptoms noted and hematologic tests remained normal. It is not known whether lamivudine can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

Zidovudine: Acute overdoses of zidovudine have been reported in pediatric patients and adults. These involved exposures up to 50 grams. The only consistent findings were nausea and vomiting. Other reported occurrences included headache, dizziness, drowsiness, lethargy, confusion, and one report of a grand mal seizure. Hematologic changes were transient. All patients recovered. Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis appear to have a negligible effect on the removal of zidovudine while elimination of its primary metabolite, GZDV, is enhanced.

DDSSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: The recommended oral dose of COMBIVIR for adults and adolescents (at least 12 years of age) is one tablet (containing 150 mg of lamivudine and 300 mg of zidovudine) twice daily. **Dose Adjustment:** Because it is a fixed-dose combination, COMBIVIR should not be prescribed for patients requiring dosage adjustment such as those with reduced renal function (creatinine clearance <50 mL/min), those with low body weight (<50 kg or 110 lb), or those experiencing dose-limiting adverse events.

US Patent Nos. 5,047,407; 4,818,538; 4,828,838; 4,724,232; 4,833,130; and 4,837,208

GlaxoWellcome

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Lamivudine is manufactured under agreement from BioChem Pharma Inc.

Laval, Quebec, Canada

March 1999/RL-685

References: 1. CAESAR Coordinating Committee. Randomised trial of addition of lamivudine or lamivudine plus zidovudine to zidovudine-containing regimens for patients with HIV-1 infection: the CAESAR trial. *Lancet* 1997;349:1413-1421. 2. Hammer SM, Squires KE, Hughes MD, et al. A controlled trial of two nucleoside analogues plus didanosine in persons with human immunodeficiency virus infection and CD4 cell counts of 200 per cubic millimeter or less. *N Engl J Med* 1997;337:725-733.

MEDIA ALERT

A&E to investigate anti-gay hate crimes

by Jerry Weinstein,
GLAAD publications
manager

The same network that brought audiences the GLAAD Media Award-nominated "Transgender Revolution" last year has produced another groundbreaking documentary, focusing this time on the prevalence of hate crimes motivated by perceived sexual orientation. On July 6, A&E's *Investigative Reports* will feature an hour-long piece entitled "Anti-Gay Hate Crimes."

GLAAD has reviewed an advance copy of the piece, which did not feature commentary from *Investigative Reports* host Bill Kurtis that will be included in the broadcast, and the content is subject to change by the time of its airing. But based upon that review, the program deals with a wide variety of issues.

Most obviously related to the show's title are hate crimes committed against lesbians and gay men such as the murders of Matthew Shepard and lesser-known Arkansas resident Alan Walker. But *Investigative Reports* also explores the impact of in-school harassment, crimes committed against heterosexuals who are perceived to be gay, is inclusive of people of color, and looks at the impact of campaigning by religious political extremists upon the perpetuation of prejudice and bias-motivated violence.

"Anti-Gay Hate Crimes" is one of the most in-depth pieces aired to date on hate crimes committed against lesbians and gay men, and is overall a positive and informative piece. Unfortunately, it's marred by the inclusion of brief but sensationalistic footage from the Family Research Council (FRC), in which men are shown engaging in sexual conduct. The FRC's description of its covert footage suffices in making clear its views on lesbians and gay men, and its inclusion does little more than give FRC a platform for its exploitative practices. Furthermore, the images shown will likely stay in viewers' minds far longer than most of the other visuals in the piece, and ultimately, they detract sharply from the positive impact the piece would otherwise have.

Check your local listings to confirm the air time, and tune in to "Anti-Gay Hate Crimes." Contact A&E and let them know how you felt about the show.

Contact Terry Bennett, Viewer Services, A&E, 235 E. 45th St., New York, NY 10017-3305, fax: (212) 983-4370

Sandler is gay-friendly Big Daddy

Adam Sandler's latest opus, *Big Daddy*, opening June 25, includes positive portrayals of gay men. In the film, two law school pals of Sonny Koufax (Adam Sandler) passionately kiss good-bye, revealing themselves as a gay male couple. While their sexual orientation occasionally lends itself to sight gags, Sonny's response to a friend's unease is disarming in its honesty: "That's what gay guys do, they kiss." Later in the film, Sonny's love interest Layla (Joey

Lauren Adams of *Chasing Amy*) asks him if it was strange having his pals come out and reveal their love for each other. Sonny explains that it wasn't, and notes that the only difference now is that "they watch different porn." Since Adam Sandler's core audience consists of teenage boys, *Big Daddy*'s impact reaches an audience that rarely sees positive portrayals of lesbians or gay men on screen at all.

Please contact Columbia TriStar and the producers of *Big Daddy* and thank them for teaching audiences of all ages an important lesson about acceptance and friendship in such a frank and refreshing manner.

Contact Mr. Adam Sandler, Executive Producer, *Big Daddy*, 100 Universal Plaza, Building 507A, Penthouse 1, Universal City, CA 91608; Mr. Sid Ganis, Producer, *Big Daddy*, Out of the Blue Entertainment, Sony Pictures, 10202 W. Washington Blvd., Hepburn East, 2nd Floor, Culver City, CA 90232-3195; Mr. Jack Giarraputo, Producer, *Big Daddy*, 10202 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232-3195; and Ms. Amy Pascal, President, Columbia Pictures, 10202 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232-3195

Time to learn from the past

Last year, *Time* magazine released two special retrospective issues that were the subject of substantial GLAADAlerts, one commemorating its 75th anniversary, the other, a year-end review. In spite of the growth of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) rights movement in the last 50 years, and the effect of the AIDS pandemic throughout the last 15 years, the 75th anniversary issue ignored the community. Similarly, such noteworthy 1998 events as the highly-covered October murder of Matthew Shepard; developments in the struggle for equal marriage rights; and pertinent legislative actions across the country failed to receive appropriate attention in the year-end review. Following the publication of the latter issue, GLAAD Executive Director Joan M. Garry and other GLAAD staff representatives called for a meeting with members of the magazine's senior editorial staff including *Time* Managing Editor Walter Isaacson. At that time, Garry shared GLAAD's concerns with *Time* and expressed its disappointment with the omissions, especially since GLAAD had long recognized the news magazine's outstanding and regular coverage.

Time has obviously paid closer attention in its more recent issues. In April, 1998, it began its five-issue series of the "100 Persons of the Century." In the series' penultimate issue, on "Scientists & Thinkers," mathematician and computer scientist Alan Turing was featured in a piece which made mention of the influential thinker's homosexuality. But more importantly, in its June 14 issue, on "Heroes & Icons," *Time* answered the call for inclusiveness, featuring as one of its 20 heroes the late San Francisco City Supervisor, Harvey Milk, assassinated by a former fellow city offi-

cial in 1978. Written compellingly by *Time*'s John Cloud, the two-page piece examines Milk's life and struggle to achieve his position, noting that "[w]hile assassination offered Milk something then rare for openly gay men - mainstream empathy - it would have been thrilling to see how far he could have gone as a leader. Instead, he remains frozen in time, a symbol of what gays can accomplish and the dangers they face in doing so." *Time* follows the piece with a full-page timeline of highlights in the history of the lesbian and gay community.

Please thank *Time*'s staff for a truly remarkable turnaround. Let them know you valued their attention to detail and the inclusion of LGBT community issues in what indeed proved to be a special issue.

Contact: Walter Isaacson, Managing Editor, *Time* Magazine, Time-Life Building, 1271 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, fax: (212) 522-8949, e-mail: letters@time.com (include phone and address)

Contact GLAAD by e-mail at glaad@glaad.org or by phone at (415) 861-2244. Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's toll-free AlertLine! 1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-6334).

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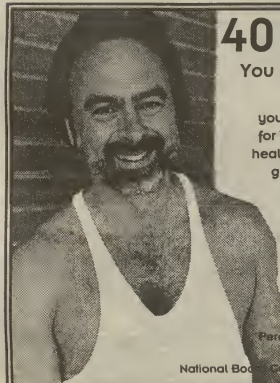
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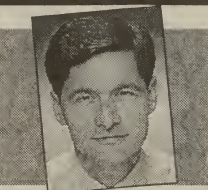
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Nob Hill Theatre assistant manager slain

by Mark Norby

The death of a man described as a "higher soul" and a "soul traveler" has left friends wondering how such a peaceful man could be so savagely killed in the early morning hours of Saturday, June 12. Reports state that the victim, 52-year-old Todd Peterson, who was the assistant manager at the Nob Hill Adult Theatre, was stabbed in the chest, possibly by a man he met at My Place bar in the South of Market District.

Peterson's common-law wife

and closest friend, Julie Immer, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that her soulmate was stabbed repeatedly, as many as 21 times. Immer is working closely with investigators in their attempts to piece together the last hours of Peterson's life, which seems as mysterious as his diverse, complex relationships with other human beings.

"Todd defied labels, concepts, categories, classification," Immer said emotionally. "We met some 20 years ago and he always surpassed the labels that most of us succumb to. He came to my home one day to house-sit while I went on vacation, and when I returned he said, in a positive, grounded way, 'I'm not leaving.' And I said 'Okay,' and we lived together happily, in peace and with a deep trust between one another."

Peterson worked at the Nob Hill for 12 years and added much to the establishment. "He had a gift, a natural charm with our customers," said the theater's owner Forest Hunter. "He knew how to run the place and had a special way with performers and anyone who entered our doors."

Police found Phillip Adkinson, 30, next to Peterson's lifeless body at Peterson's Hyde Street apartment. Adkinson, who also had a stab wound in the chest, made a statement to police and is now being held without bail at the county jail on suspicion of murder.

"I never met Adkinson, and I don't understand the motive for Todd's murder, if it was murder," Immer told the *B.A.R.* "Investigators have said that Todd's death was caused by another, that he was stabbed repeatedly, as many as 21 times or more."

"Adkinson's stab wound was most likely self-inflicted, but the investigators are not saying for sure yet," she added.

Investigators are trying to determine if the victim and suspect met each other at a South of Market cruise bar, according to Immer. "Todd may have left My Place with Adkinson, but we're not sure," she said. "A man came forward the other day and told [SFPD] homicide that Todd was last seen leaving My Place on Friday night [June 11]. That's the very last place we heard Todd had been or had been seen."

Peterson started his work life in San Francisco back in the 1960s at Enrico's restaurant in North



Stabbing victim Todd Peterson

Beach, where Immer said regular customers would wait in lines outside the restaurant just to be seated in his section. "He was so personable with his customers, quick witted, with a sharp joke or comment that really kept them coming back." But, she added, "That was his outside personality. Inside he was a very deep man, holding much inside."

"He was very spiritually advanced and this also kept his focus on himself, deep inside."

Immer said that Peterson was actually a very private person who shared his thoughts and feelings with only a few people, and said his years as a soldier in Vietnam affected him deeply. "Todd had a hard time embracing people and his time in Vietnam, where he worked to find POWs [prisoners of war], hit him hard. It was only recently that he learned to open up and share with more people in his life."

Peterson will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, where his ashes will be laid to rest with military honors. Further autopsy results and toxicology reports will be available in four to six weeks. Investigators hope further clues into Peterson's death will surface through those reports.

Peterson's family resides in upstate New York and has asked that their son be remembered as a gentle soul, complicated, and respected. "His family can only really imagine how deep Todd really was. But I know they are intent that Todd be remembered in thoughts of beauty, for he was beautiful," Immer concluded. "In the 20 years that we knew one another, we never, never once had an argument. He was an expression of peace." ▼

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United Press International

A confessed serial killer has been sentenced to five life terms in prison without the possibility of parole for the strangulation murders of five gay men.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Jacqueline Connor imposed the sentence Monday, June 21 on Juan Chavez, 33, who pleaded guilty to five counts of murder earlier this year after jury selection began in his trial.

Prosecutors say Chavez allowed himself to be picked up at locations frequented by gay Hispanic men, went back to their houses, tied

them up, and robbed them before strangling them with exercise ropes, neckties, and electrical cords.

The killing spree began in July 1986 when 46-year-old Alfred Rowsell was found strangled in his Los Angeles apartment.

Prosecutors say Ruben Panis, 57, Donald Kleeman, 48, Michael Allen Cates, 46, and Leo Hildebrand, 52, were found strangled in their Los Angeles apartments between September and November 1989.

Chavez was serving time in Folsom State Prison on a kidnapping and robbery conviction when he was charged with the murders in November 1994. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

Bad at Bagdad

by Jane Warner and
Ron McGlashan

Friday, June 18, 2 a.m., Bagdad Café, 2295 Market Street: A man who obviously was drunk walked out of Bagdad Café without paying for his \$8.95 breakfast. When the restaurant employees caught up with him, he still refused to pay so one of the waiters called the police. While waiting for the police to arrive, the drunk man started yelling obscenities at passersby and at the Bagdad employees.

A passing homeless man, who was upset at being called a name, ran over to the drunk man and pulled a pistol from his jacket and pointed it at the drunk man's head. The police arrived and saw the homeless man with the pistol pointing at the other man's head and drew their guns on both of the men. As the officers approached the two, they discovered that the homeless man actually was holding a cap gun.

The officers admonished the homeless man and told the drunk man to pay his bill, which he did, and Bagdad Café dropped the charges.

Flaming behind Walgreens

Friday, June 18, 3 a.m., Walgreens, 498 Castro Street: Early Friday morning an employee of Walgreens noticed flames shooting through the open bathroom window in the rear of the store. The night manager called 911 as another employee grabbed a fire extinguisher and extinguished the fire. The fire department immediately responded and found a stack of burned newspapers and an empty vodka bottle, surmising that a homeless person might have been camping out and fell asleep with a lighted cigarette.

The fire department reported the only damage was a scorched security gate, thanks to the quick thinking of Walgreens' staff. Police and firefighters warn the public to be on the lookout for other fires in the neighborhood, in case the incident turns out to have been arson.

Ab stab on Polk

Thursday, June 10, 1 a.m., Fern Alley and Polk Street: Two men were sitting on the curb on Fern Alley sharing a beer when, in the middle of the conversation, one pulled a knife from his belongings and stabbed the other man, who described him as a "friend," in the abdomen. The suspect fled onto Polk Street, a passerby called for an ambulance, and the victim was rushed to San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH) where he underwent surgery for a lacerated liver. SFPD says the suspect is known by the name Jason, has a blue U-shaped tattoo on his chin, and is known to hang out in the Polk and Sutter Street areas, as well as near the corner of Market and 6th streets. Anyone with information should call the Northern Station, at (415) 553-2563 and speak to Officer Chris Breen.

Panhandler handled

Thursday, June 17, 11:40 p.m., The Bar on Castro and 400 block of Castro Street: Late Thursday night the SFPD received several calls regarding an aggressive panhandler on the 400 block of Castro. One call came from Morgan

Gorrono, the owner of The Bar on Castro, who reported the panhandler approached him in front of his business and demanded, "Give me a dollar, you faggot asshole." When Gorrono refused, the man walked up the block to the California Federal Bank ATM and solicited people waiting in line. The suspect then headed towards Daddy's bar, pushing one of the patrons standing outside.

A few minutes later, the Chevron gas station called to report a fight in their parking lot, and a man called on his cell phone stating that a panhandler just tried to rob him and his boyfriend at the bus stop at 17th and Market streets. According to the man at the bus stop, the suspect demanded money, and when he told him "No, I'm sorry," the suspect said "You're not sorry at all, you faggot piece of shit." The suspect then went to the Chevron station and he picked up a squeegee,

then came back after the man and again demanded money. When the victim refused, the suspect threw the squeegee at him and was last seen walking eastbound on Market Street.

The Special Patrol, who had picked up Gorrono and was conducting an area search, found the suspect fronting Crystal Way at 2335 Market Street and arrested him. Several witnesses and victims came forward and identified the suspect and signed statements or pressed charges. Norman Sentos, 35, was booked for attempted strong-arm robbery, aggressive panhandling, hate crime enhancements, and a parole violation warrant. ▼

This column is brought to you as a public service of the SFPD Office of Public Affairs and the men and women of the SFPD who protect and serve you. For information call the office at (415) 553-1651. The San Francisco Patrol Special Police can be reached at (415) 679-1827.



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Gay Mardi Gras

(partial list of events/subject to change)

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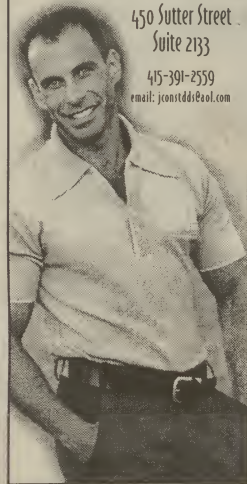
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Bay Area bis celebrate pride

by Liz Highleyman

Bay Area bisexuals will celebrate Pride this year with a variety of events, including two dance parties and a contingent in Sunday's parade.

Friday, June 25, the fourth annual Fencesitters Ball will welcome all bisexuals and friends to an evening of dancing, prize giveaways, a Stormy Leather fashion show, and a performance by the

Safer Sex Sluts. The ball – along with the bisexual film festival in July – is one of the major events bringing together bisexuals from throughout the Bay Area. The party will take place from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Club Paradise, located at 1028 Geary Street between Van Ness and Polk streets.

As happens every year, there will be a bisexual contingent in Sunday's Pride Parade. The contingent's theme will be "Common Heritage, Common Future," to

emphasize that bisexual people have always been an active part of the gay and lesbian community. The bi group (#86) will gather in section H on Spear Street between Mission and Howard at 10 a.m. Safety monitors are still needed.

Finally, following the parade, there will be a dance party to benefit *Anything That Moves*, the San Francisco-based national magazine for bisexuals. The *Anything That Grooves* party – featuring male and female exotic dancers –

will take place at 7 pm at the CoCo Club on Minna at 8th Street, a few blocks from the official post-Pride celebration at Civic Center. ▼

For more information about bi pride events, visit the website at www.anythingthatmoves.com. For information about the Fencesitters Ball call (415) 929-5038. To volunteer as a parade contingent monitor, call Ted at (415) 863-2450.

Reunion

◀ page 1

should allow full accountability of his events, because he uses the [gay] community as a free labor pool," Ramage told the *B.A.R.* from his Bristol, England home. "Or does anyone pay attention to these matters?"

A beast in a land of beauty

Spradlin's production company, Noble Beast Productions, hired Ramage and Paul Thomas, owner of Market Street Gym, to build last year's spaceship. "It's plain and simple: Spradlin should not be allowed to rip off the gay community," Thomas told the *B.A.R.*. "He's ripped off Ashley and Randy [Schiller] and he's doing another party anyway. Gay men should not rip off other gay men. It's against our community. There's plenty of other honest parties to support and supporting Reunion this year would just further Spradlin's illicit activities. Don [Spradlin] has to deal with bills from last year, and he's been given the go-ahead to do the party this year. It's a shame."

Thomas noted that three au-

ditions were conducted after Reunion '98, one by Spradlin himself, one by Reunion's former treasurer, Tom Bercu, and a third by an outside auditing company. "There was no paper trail to be found," Thomas said. "Spradlin's accounting system proved to be totally disorganized and left deep holes all over the place. He obviously provided inaccurate reporting."

Spradlin's first attempt to not pay allegedly was to write letters to the vendors asking them to understand that the party was a financial failure, and to write off the outstanding debt. Schiller, who provided the lighting, sound, and handled production coordination of the party, detailed some of Spradlin's accounting methods.

"At the end of Reunion '98, Spradlin's production company owed the Galleria for rental of the space," Schiller said. When Hell Ball was being arranged later in the year – a party Spradlin helped produce – an ultimatum was made by Galleria management that the bill for Reunion had to be settled before Hell Ball could proceed. That bill finally was paid.

Galleria's Special Events Coordinator Margaret Casey confirmed that Spradlin was late in paying his

bill. "He paid the bill in about 60 days, and we let him know that Hell Ball could not proceed until the Reunion bill was paid."

In contradiction to the contracts that the vendors signed, the amounts sent to vendors were not equal proportions of their respective bills. Ramage and Schiller claim this is illegal. "In April this year, he sent approximately half of the outstanding balance with an accompanying letter stating that cashing of the check would constitute acceptance of that amount as full and final payment. The follow-up letter that he wrote is not a contract," Ramage added.

"He paid nothing for the first six months after the party, then over the next three months he paid a total of 20 percent of the outstanding amount. And he still owes \$5,568.25. What vendor working on Reunion '99 would contract with Spradlin if they knew that this is how he does business?"

However, Spradlin denies that he owes any money. In an interview with the *B.A.R.*, Spradlin said that Reunion '98 was a financial failure and that he had to pay the remaining expenses of the party out of his own pocket.

"I paid Ramage and Schiller in full and it's sad that it has to come down to this," Spradlin said. "Most of the party last year was staffed by volunteers, and this year's party is staffed by over 50 volunteers, plus many other volunteers that will throw in a few hours of their time for the event."

Reunion '99: Pricey, dicey

This year's party at City Hall was expected to last until 6 a.m., the typical time bug-eyed partygoers find somewhere else, or something else, to do. But like all government buildings, 2 a.m. is closing time for all functions, no exceptions. Reunion '98 at the Galleria closed at 6 a.m. To make up for the early shut-down time, Reunion '99 is redirecting the party to the End Up, where it will continue until 8 a.m.

"I don't think it's a good idea to kick out a bunch of high people and send them across town in all kinds of party conditions," said Ramage. "It's dangerous." Thomas added that the End Up has nowhere near the capacity of City Hall.

"City Hall is huge and the End Up can't hold the same amount of people. There could be all kinds of drug problems at City Hall, you could have people passing out on [party drug] GHB, and the city's not going to put up with that," Thomas said.

DJ David Knapp is headlining the event at City Hall. Knapp's manager, George Dellinger, told the *B.A.R.* that he and Knapp think it's a bad idea to move the party across town at a time when most partygoers are peaking. "David was not at all happy about moving across town and was not going to play the End Up. He's a headliner for the party and Don [Spradlin] told him he would only be playing the End Up and not City Hall, as promised and agreed to," Dellinger said.

"It's all too disorganized and it's not smart to break up a party in the middle of the night."

Thomas added that the tickets are a bit pricey – \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door – for a party that is expected to last seven hours at one venue, then continues for another six hours at another. "Key to the City" tickets are available for \$100, which includes a separate six-hour party on Saturday at the Phoenix Hotel, as well as valet parking at the City Hall event.

"The list of underwriters, donors, distinguished hosts, and regular hosts makes the Royal Wedding look like afternoon tea," Ramage added. "That list of hosts and donors is crap," Schiller said. "Spradlin's a crook, he doesn't return our calls and he seems to have no intention of paying."

"If Reunion is the official Pride party, as the flyers say, Spradlin has a strange way of showing his faith and pride in the community," said Ramage. "It'd be better to call the party 'Shame.'" ▼

Gary R. Cloutier
Attorney at Law

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Carole Fiedler

We've heard this line before... get vaccinated against hepatitis A.

Well, now it's a more important story. Around the country, hepatitis A outbreaks are putting gay and bisexual men at a higher risk of infection. It's a serious enough health threat that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association strongly encourage routine vaccination for men who have sex with men.

Hepatitis A is a highly infectious disease of the liver caused by the hepatitis A virus. Among gay men, it is most often spread through oral/anal contact or by handling a condom that's been used for anal sex (using a condom won't prevent hepatitis A). In addition, vaccination is strongly recommended for international travelers including those going to Mexico and parts of the Caribbean.

As many as 143,000 people in the United States are infected each year. More than 3% of patients age 40 and older die. On average, infected adults lose more than 5 weeks of work and many require costly hospitalization. Symptoms include fever, fatigue, lack of appetite, nausea, jaundice and dark urine.

We can rewrite the end to this story. Hepatitis A is preventable with *Havrix*. A single dose offers protection for up to 1 year, and a booster dose—given anytime between 6 and 12 months after the 1st dose—offers longer-term immunity. The most common side effects are headache and soreness in your arm.*

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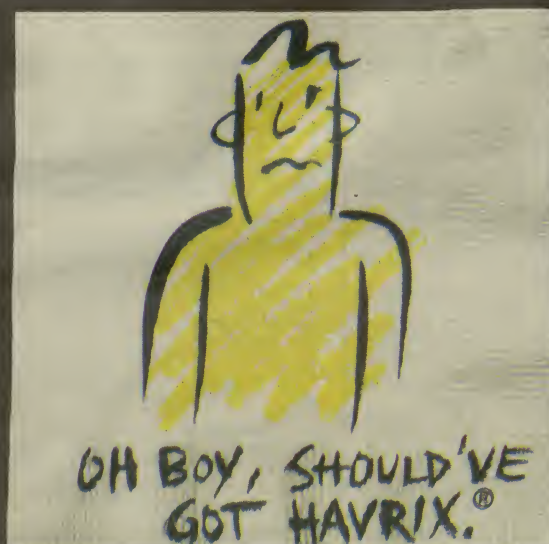
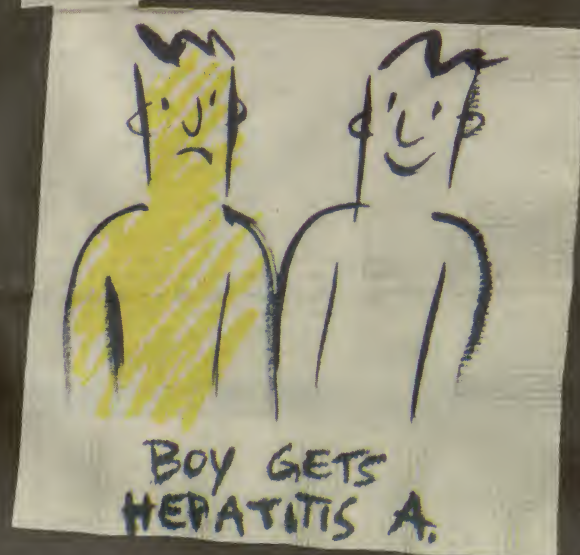
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HA0377

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See complete prescribing information in SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals literature. The following is a brief summary.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Havrix is indicated for active immunization of persons ≥ 2 years of age against disease caused by hepatitis A virus (HAV). Primary immunization should be completed at least 2 weeks prior to expected exposure to HAV.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Havrix is contraindicated in people with known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine.

WARNINGS: There have been rare reports of anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid reactions following commercial use of the vaccine in other countries. Do not give additional injections to patients experiencing hypersensitivity reactions after a Havrix injection. (See CONTRAINDICATIONS.)

Hepatitis A has a relatively long incubation period. Hepatitis A vaccine may not prevent hepatitis A infection in those who have an unrecognized hepatitis A infection at the time of vaccination. Additionally, it may not prevent infection in those who do not achieve protective antibody titers (although the lowest titer needed to confer protection has not been determined).

PRECAUTIONS: As with any parenteral vaccine (1) keep epinephrine available for use in case of anaphylaxis or anaphylactoid reaction; (2) delay administration, if possible, in people with any febrile illness or active infection, except when the physician believes withholding vaccine entails the greater risk; (3) take all known precautions to prevent adverse reactions, including reviewing patients' history for hypersensitivity to this or similar vaccines.

Administer with caution to people with thrombocytopenia or a bleeding disorder, or people taking anticoagulants. Do not inject into a blood vessel. Use a separate, sterile needle or prefilled syringe for every patient. When giving concomitantly with other vaccines or I.D. use separate needles and different injection sites.

As with any vaccine, if administered to immunosuppressed persons or persons receiving immunosuppressive therapy, the expected immune response may not be obtained.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Havrix has not been evaluated for its carcinogenic potential, mutagenic potential or potential for impairment of fertility.

Pregnancy Category C: Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with Havrix. It is also not known whether Havrix can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Give Havrix to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed. It is not known whether Havrix is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, use caution when administering Havrix to a nursing woman.

Havrix is well tolerated and highly immunogenic and effective in children.

Fully inform patients, parents or guardians of the benefits and risks of immunization with Havrix. For persons traveling to endemic or epidemic areas, consult current CDC advisories regarding specific locales. Travelers should take all necessary precautions to avoid contact with, or ingestion of, contaminated food or water. Duration of immunity following a complete vaccination schedule has not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: Havrix has been generally well tolerated. As with all pharmaceuticals, however, it is possible that exposure to commercial use of the vaccine could reveal rare adverse events.

The most frequently reported by volunteers in clinical trials was injection-site soreness (56% of adults, 21% of children); headache (14% of adults, less than 5% of children); dizziness, lightheadedness and other symptoms were reported in 10% of subjects. Incidence 1% to 10% of injections: Induration, redness, swelling, fatigue, fever (>37.5°C), malaise, anorexia, nausea.

Incidence <1% of injections: Hematoma; pruritus, rash, urticaria, pharyngitis, other upper respiratory tract infections; abdominal pain; diarrhea, dyspepsia, vomiting, arthralgia; elevation of creatine phosphokinase, myalgia; lymphadenopathy; hypersensitive epidermis; photophobia; vertigo.

Additional safety data

Safety data were obtained from two additional sources in which large populations were vaccinated. In an outbreak setting in which 4,500 individuals were immunized with a single dose of either 720 ELU or 1440 ELU of Havrix, the vaccine was well-tolerated and no serious adverse events due to vaccination were reported. Overall, less than 10% of vaccinees reported solicited general adverse events following the vaccine. The most common solicited local adverse event was pain at the injection site, reported in 22.3% of subjects at 24 hours and decreasing to 2.4% by 72 hours.

In a field efficacy trial, 19,037 children received the 360 ELU dose of Havrix. The most commonly reported adverse events were injection-site pain (9.5%) and tenderness (8.1%), reported following first doses of Havrix. Other adverse events were infrequent and comparable to the control vaccine Ingenix-B® (Hepatitis B Vaccine, Recombinant).

In subjects with chronic liver disease, Havrix was safe and well-tolerated. Local injection site reactions were similar among all four groups and no serious adverse reactions attributed to the vaccine were reported in subjects with chronic liver disease.

Postmarketing Reports: Rare voluntary reports of adverse events in people receiving Havrix since market introduction include the following: local edema; anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid reactions; somnolence; syncope; jaundice; hepatitis; erythema multiforme; hyperhidrosis; angioedema; dyspnea; lymphadenopathy; convulsions; encephalopathy; dizziness; neuropathy; myelitis; paresthesia; Guillain-Barré syndrome; multiple sclerosis; congenital abnormality.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has established the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) to accept reports of suspected adverse events after the administration of any vaccine, including, but not limited to, the reporting of events required by the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The toll-free number for VAERS forms and information is 1-800-822-7367.

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1440 ELU/mL NDC 58160-835-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial; NDC 58160-835-02 Package of 1 prefilled syringe; NDC 58160-835-05 Package of 5 prefilled syringes with 1-inch 23-gauge needles; NDC 58160-835-07 Package of 1 multi-dose vial, containing 10 doses; NDC 58160-835-35 Package of 5 prefilled disposable Tip-Lok™ syringes with 1-inch 23-gauge needles.

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BRS-HA111A

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Dyke March set for Saturday

by Cynthia Laird

It's Pride time and for the seventh year in a row, dykes of every persuasion will converge this Saturday, June 26 for the Dyke March. This year, due to popular demand, the festivities start earlier than ever, with live music beginning at 4 p.m. at Dolores Park, located at Dolores Street at 19th.

The actual march starts at 7:45 p.m., preceded by a rally at 7. Under the banner of "It's a Movement, Not a Market!" the Dyke March is a nonprofit, all volunteer-run community event with no corporate sponsors. There will also be no alcohol sales and no politicians, organizers said.

The party in the Castro starts at 9.

More than 40,000 women are expected to participate in this year's event. All women are welcome, said organizer Lisa Roth, and men are invited to cheer from the sidewalk as marchers go by. The march and rally are completely wheelchair accessible and the rally will be sign interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Urvashi Vaid, with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, will give the keynote speech. A special address will be given by Ruth Ellis, a 100-year-old dyke. A film about Ellis's life is debuting as part of the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival Friday, June 25 and June 26 in the morning.

The Dyke March is expanding its pre-march program to include performers Sini Anderson and Michelle Tea of Sister Spit, San Francisco rap artist Nidoubleki, and San Francisco Drag King 1999, "Barrie White." Emcees and



Jodie Foster look-alikes at last year's Dyke March.

comedians include Fairy Butch, Page Hurwitz, and Charlene Tapia. Dancers performing for a sultry afternoon of dyke delights include Shannon, Edaj, and Randalen and Alexis.

Live music will feature the soulful vocals of Jill Knight and band, Once, a new 13-piece salsa dance band, and Kindness, all-girl rocktronic. DJs include Edaj, Ellen Ferrato, JaQueen, Olga T., Page Hotel, and Michelle Mattos.

Roth said volunteers are needed to help with prop making, flyer distribution, T-shirt sales, and other projects.

According to Roth and fellow organizer Jane Cleland, the Dyke March is "for love, for freedom, for power, for dignity, for happi-

ness, for human rights, for liberation, for joy, for sex, for control of our lives, for control of our bodies, for self defense, for solidarity, for equality, for justice, for the future, for strength, for passion, for sisterhood, for our children, for ourselves, for all women forever."

This year San Francisco Sex Information (SFSI) will educate marchers and onlookers about sex practices that reduce the risk of disease transmission, with volunteers distributing 2,000 safer sex kits containing latex gloves, lube, and condoms to the crowd.

SFSI is a volunteer-run, nonprofit telephone switchboard that was established 27 years ago to provide free, anonymous, non-judgmental sex information and refer-

als. It still operates its telephone line at (415) 989-SFSI (7374), and has now expanded its realm to the Internet, at <http://www.sfsi.org>. "This year SFSI has set its sights on doing the largest safer sex supply distribution in the history of the Dyke March," says coordinator of the effort, Lois Hoeffer, a director on the SFSI board.

The packets were created from donations given by Stadtlander's Pharmacy, AIDS Health Project, Stop AIDS Project, The Xandria Collection, and Mayer Labs in Oakland. ▼

To volunteer for the Dyke March or to get more info, visit the website <http://www.fireworx.org/dykemarch.html> or call (415) 241-8882.

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Drag March set for Friday

by Cynthia Laird

Drag queens and kings will unite with friends in solidarity and fun this Friday, June 25 when they take part in the Drag March from the Castro to Polk Street. The event will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Stonewall riots.

San Francisco's own Gilbert Baker, creator of the rainbow flag, is helping organize the march, for which there is a permit issued by the police department. Participants should assemble at Castro and 19th streets beginning at 8 p.m.; the march will conclude at Polk and Post streets at 11:30 p.m. The Drag March will proceed east on Market Street to Van Ness, past City Hall, east on McAllister, and north on Polk Street.

"Thirty years ago we were throwing rocks, now we're registering voters," Baker said. "The legacy of Stonewall is about fighting back, we're taking it to the streets to get people to the ballot box." ▼



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*Based on vertex studies at 24 months of men 18 to 41 with mild to moderate hair loss.

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Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. A very small number of men experienced certain side effects, such as: less desire for sex, difficulty in achieving an erection, and a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects were reversible and went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men (58%) who continued taking PROPECIA.

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What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 20s.

Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

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For most men, PROPECIA increases the number of scalp hairs, helping to fill in thin or balding areas of the scalp. Men taking PROPECIA noted a slowing of hair loss during two years of use. Although results will vary, generally you will not be able to grow back all of the hair you have lost. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works in the treatment of receding hairline in the temporal area on both sides of the head.

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You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more before you see a benefit from taking PROPECIA. PROPECIA can only work over the long term if you continue taking it. If the drug has not worked for you in twelve months, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit. If you stop taking PROPECIA, you will likely lose the hair you have gained within 12 months of stopping treatment. You should discuss this with your doctor.

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If a woman who is pregnant with a male baby absorbs the active ingredient in PROPECIA, either by swallowing or through the skin, it may cause abnormalities of a male baby's sex organs. If a woman who is pregnant comes into contact with the active ingredient in PROPECIA, a doctor should be consulted. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

What are the possible side effects of PROPECIA?

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. In clinical studies, side effects from PROPECIA were uncommon and did not affect most men. A small number of men experienced certain sexual side effects. These men reported one or more of the following: less desire for sex; difficulty in achieving an erection; and, a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men who continued taking PROPECIA.

The active ingredient in PROPECIA is also used by older men at a five-times higher dose to treat enlargement of the prostate. Some of these men reported other side effects, including problems with ejaculation, breast swelling and/or tenderness and allergic reactions such as lip swelling and rash. In clinical studies with PROPECIA, these side effects occurred as often in men taking placebo as in those taking PROPECIA.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual effects.

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Storage and handling.

Keep PROPECIA in the original container and keep the container closed. Store it in a dry place at room temperature. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

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THIS LEAFLET PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROPECIA. IF AFTER READING THIS LEAFLET YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ARE NOT SURE ABOUT ANYTHING, ASK YOUR DOCTOR.

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Call for more diversity at CCP board meeting

by Cynthia Laird

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Community Center Project (CCP) Board of Directors elected Latina lesbian Pat Martel as its new president at the annual meeting Saturday, June 19. Board members also heard of the need for greater board diversity — particularly from the African-American community — and introduced Duane Cramer, an African-American, as a likely board member.

Byron McQuarters, a longtime African-American gay activist, recently withdrew from board consideration because of what he saw as a "corporate mentality" among board members and said he felt more and more unwelcome. McQuarters was a key organizer of a CCP committee meeting last month that was focused on diversity.

"In fairness, the CCP has made lots of outreach to various sub-communities of the [LGBT] community by having surveys, focus groups and talks with community leaders," McQuarters told the *Bay Area Reporter* last month. "To me and others, we need to have more pointed discussions on how the community center can be a true community center; how we make the word 'community' come alive and make sure the project doesn't become the club of a select few."

McQuarters told the *B.A.R.* that his concerns aren't just focused on people of color. "It was for everybody to feel part of the center," he said, including women, the leather community, and every other part of the LGBT community. Mostly, what upset him to the point of withdrawing was the indefinite waiting period he was put through as a prospective board member, he said.

"Finally, I withdrew because the CCP suddenly lost all relevancy for me," he said. "And that's sad, because I initially went into this very excited and enthused."

The group Men of All Colors Together (MACT) was a key part of the May meeting and a couple of members were on hand Saturday to express their concerns.

"It's heartening to hear the words of diversity today," Richard Brownscombe told the board. "Part of the heart of the community center is bringing everyone together; it's very important to achieve that and it's a very hard thing to do. I don't think there are good examples of that."

As a remedy, he suggested the CCP develop an "enabling document" that is committed to diversity. Another suggestion he made was not to pit groups against one another for office space in the center. "No cookie cutter is going to work," Brownscombe said. "I want to encourage the effort and I feel good about what I'm hearing so far."

Committee in formation

Dana Van Gorder, a CCP board member who was elected vice president at Saturday's meeting, said the diversity meeting held by the program committee last month was "very successful." He also said the committee is forming an outreach committee, separate from the CCP's specific outreach committee, to "make sure our programs are inclusive."

Gary, who only uses his first



CCP President Pat Martel, board member Deb Montesinos, and local resident Kathleen Gilbert check out a construction hat like the ones the CCP contingent will wear at the Pride Parade.

name, from MACT, was also on hand Saturday, and was a bit cautious in his assessment of the CCP's commitment to diversity. "I won't be getting involved any more than I am," he told the *B.A.R.* "It's still somebody else's dream. It needs to do what it sets out to do and be a community center."

In an interview last week with the *B.A.R.*, Gary said he had never heard of the CCP's outreach committee. "I still go to meetings, but I can't keep the interest alive in our group," he said, adding that MACT has been around for 19 years and has about 70 members, with a mailing list of 600 people.

Eddie Dobbins, a co-chair of Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action (LGADDA) addressed the board, "There is some new leadership in the community," he said, adding that if the CCP is looking for people of color, "they're out there."

Van Gorder said he and other board members heard the need for greater inclusiveness at last month's meeting. "The one thing we heard loud and clear at recent meetings was the need for continued [commitment] to diversity on the board," he said.

Martel, who presided over the public comment portion of the meeting, praised outgoing President Brenda Barnette's commitment to diversity, and pledged to keep that commitment. "I'm committed to the process of allowing everyone the opportunity to be heard. The diversity we have now and hope to have is really what we're all about," she said.

Board member Victor Marquez echoed Martel's comments, saying he talked with Barnette about diversity over two years ago and that she has been "most conscious of diversity." In addition to Martel and Van Gorder, the CCP's other officers are Scott Weiner, treasurer, and Peggy Hughes, secretary.

Longtime gay activist Dick Pabich, who joined the CCP board a few months ago, explained that there are currently between 10 and 12 vacancies on the board and that they are looking to fill them soon. "We are particularly looking at people to add to the diversity of the board," Pabich said.

Cramer, who's on the board of the Names Project Foundation and on the board of the Millennium March on Washington, said he would be honored to serve on the CCP board. "I'm particularly interested in reaching out to communities of color," Cramer said,

"and building relationships here in San Francisco and in the East Bay."

In another diversity issue, longtime transgender activist Tamara Ching told Martel, "If you need TG 101, we're available."

"Thanks," Martel replied. ▼

People interested in joining the CCP board should contact Dana Van Gorder at (415) 554-2599. For more CCP information, including committee meeting dates, call the office at (415) 437-2257.

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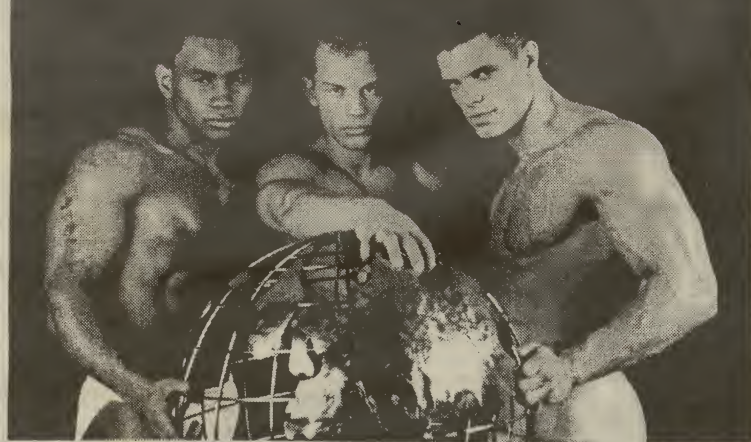
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Lamott benefit Sat. for gay Presbyterians

by Vicky Kolakowski

Best-selling author Anne Lamott will do a benefit reading at Old First Presbyterian Church in San Francisco this Saturday, June 26 to raise money for an organization supporting full participation of gay and lesbian Presbyterians.

Lamott will read from her *New York Times* best-selling book *Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith* at 8 p.m. The church is located at 1751 Sacramento Street, at Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco.

Lamott found her home congregation was a welcoming place for her, and she expects that other churches should extend such hospitality to everyone, said event organizers.

"Her experience of grace makes her know that God extends it to everyone" said Steven Barclay, Lamott's agent and himself a gay

Christian. Lamott helped celebrate Barclay's holy union last year.

The event will raise support for the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, a two-year-old national group working to permit the ordination of otherwise qualified gay and lesbian people as Presbyterian deacons, elders, and ministers.

Old First's senior pastor, the Reverend Tim Hart-Anderson, serves on Covenant Network's 11 member executive committee, along with the Reverend Laird Stuart, pastor of Calvary Presbyterian Church of San Francisco. Old First's elder Pamela Byers is the group's executive director.

"When people seem to be called into service by God, you have to wonder, who are we to say no?" asked Hart-Anderson.

Old First has a 150 year tradition of progressive social activism, from challenging slavery in the 1800s and the internment of Japanese Americans in the

1940s. More recently, in the 1970s church leaders helped found the Larkin Street Center for runaway youth and today fights for services for the homeless and for lesbian and gay inclusion, a position that Hart-Anderson says "arises from the reality of our ministry in this city."

"Including gay and lesbian people as full participants in the rights, and responsibilities, of our society is the great unrealized civil issue of our time," said one of the event's organizers, Old First elder Michael Berg, a former president of the Names Project Foundation. "I look to my church to help show a kind of grace that the world needs." ▼

Tickets for the reading are \$25, and \$100 for admission to the reading and a reception with Lamott. For more information, call (415) 522-9844.

American Baptists kick out four gay-friendly Bay Area churches

by Daniel Pryfogle

American Baptists, a denomination long known for its tolerance and commitment to social justice, voted this week to expel four Bay Area churches that welcome and affirm homosexuals.

Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa,

denominational leaders Sunday, June 20 denied the appeals of two California churches — First Baptist of Berkeley and Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church in Oakland — that were dismissed by their regional associations two years ago. Sunday's vote expels the churches from the denomination entirely.

On Monday, June 21, New Community of Faith in San Jose and San Leandro Community Church in San Leandro were expelled.

The votes may lead to a major split in the denomination, which to date has been proud of its his-

tory of social justice — opposing slavery, supporting the suffrage movement, and being home to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A Granville, Ohio church Sunday narrowly survived an attempt by fundamentalists to oust the church from the denomination. But the appeals of the Oakland and Berkeley churches were denied by the General Board, the denomination's governing body. All four Bay Area churches, long regarded as models of American Baptist social action, now are no longer welcome in the denomination. ▼

Gay issues continue to divide United Methodists

by Vicky Kolakowski

The issue of gay and lesbian inclusion in the United Methodist Church continues to generate controversy, leading to debate at a regional conference, a continuing judicial process against 68 ministers, and even the eviction of a Chicago family supportive of gay and lesbian inclusion.

Delegates at the annual meeting of the California-Nevada Conference voted last weekend to petition the denomination's national convention next year to rescind its ban on church blessings of gay and lesbian couples.

The issue has divided the denomination in recent months, leading some California conservative churches to consider their future. Atwater United Methodist Church unsuccessfully petitioned the Conference to vote to split into two denominations. "When clergy in mass state 'we will not be bound by guidelines,' the covenant is already broke," their petition states.

The petition refers to the holy union ceremony of two prominent lesbian Methodist lay leaders in Sacramento this past January. Although over a hundred clergy participated in the service, led by the Reverend Don Fado of Sacramento, only 69 were from the California-Nevada Conference and could be named in a complaint

filed locally in March. The number is down to 68, resulting in the group being called the "Sacramento 68."

The investigating committee, consisting of seven clergy and three lay members, has planned meetings through September, although the whole process will likely take much longer.

"This will probably be a long process, as we see it," said committee chair the Reverend Ron Swisher, pastor of Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church in Oakland.

After the 68 clergy are formally notified, they have a month to respond. Investigations will last much longer. Eventually, the committee will have to decide if there is sufficient evidence to try the clergy, which would require a further judicial process. The group could agree to have a single unified trial, although much is unclear in this unprecedented process involving so many clergy.

"I think it's impossible to have 68 separate trials," Fado said. "Our intent is not to break the system down."

Summer camp; some aren't

While the ministers may eventually be disciplined or even de-frocked for their action, a Chicago couple actually face eviction from their summer cottage for statements supporting gay and lesbian

page 33 ►

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GLBTs denounce arson of Sacto synagogues

by M.R. Richards

They came in the night, around 3 a.m. on Friday, June 18. They — whoever they are — left incoherent messages about "the international Jewish-controlled media" manufacturing the Albanian crisis and causing the NATO bombings in Yugoslavia.

Then they burned the heart out of three Sacramento synagogues.

The fires caused over \$1 million in damage and, for the victims, rekindled memories of other times and other burnings. Counselors

are being brought into the synagogues to help grief-stricken congregations and fearful children.

B'nai Israel, a Reform Temple, lost its 5,000 volume library and teaching rooms, as well as offices. Many manuscripts were ancient, some dating back 2,000 years, and irreplaceable. Beth Shalom, a Conservative temple, sustained fire damage in the sanctuary as the fire was set on the altar. The Orthodox Knesset Israel Torah Center sustained \$30,000 in smoke damage.

The Sacramento community's Hate Crimes Task Force (HCTF) was immediately activated, and members attended Shabbas ser-

vices at the Sacramento Convention Center Theater Friday evening. The following day the HCTF, under the leadership of members belonging to the Japanese-American Citizens League (JACL), held a press conference in Riverside Park across the street from B'nai Israel. Speakers included law enforcement officials, a member of the city and county Human Rights Fair Housing Commission, and a lesbian HRCF member who donated a \$500 check from the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community and the Lambda Community Center to reactivate the reward fund for the information and

conviction of the arsonists. Others also made donations to the rebuilding fund.

The original reward fund was started in 1993 when an attempt was made to firebomb B'nai Israel. That attempt failed, but a firebomb did destroy the offices of the NAACP and the Sacramento Chapter of the JACL. Two months later an abortive attempt was made to firebomb State Fair Employment, and the home of City Councilmember Jimmy Yee was firebombed, destroying his son's

bedroom. A young white supremacist, Richard Campos, was tried and convicted for those crimes and sentenced to 17 years in prison.

The latest arson attacks were within a week of the six-year anniversary of those bombings.

An interfaith service was held at the Community Center Theater on Monday night. Congressman Bob Matsui; Governor Gray Davis's wife, Sharon; Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante; and

page 33 ►

RCC's 'Honors Night III' Friday in Alamo

by Cynthia Laird

The Rainbow Community Center (RCC) of Contra Costa County will host its Honors Night III event this Friday, June 25 at the Round Hill Country Club in Alamo. The gala dinner and dance is the center's annual community celebration and a major fundraising event. This year's theme is "Honoring Education: Our Past ... Our Future ..."

Kevin W. Johnson, facilitator of the center's governmental concerns committee, said the annual event celebrates the contributions of people from the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) community in Contra Costa County. This year, Joe Torp, a retired Antioch art teacher, and the late Conrad Smith, his lifelong

partner of over 30 years who died in 1994, have been chosen for special recognition for their pioneering work through the Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators (BANGLE). That group later merged with the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN).

"These are two important contributions by Joe and Conrad which make them great choices for the honor," said Brian James, Honors Night committee member and a RCC board member. "First, their dedication to helping youth, which is right in line with the RCC youth programs, and second, their desire to stand up for what they believed was right when it wasn't an 'in' thing to do."

Johnson said that television's "Pine Sol" lady, Diane Amos, will serve as mistress of ceremonies for the dinner. A reception and silent

auction start the evening, followed by dinner and dancing until 1 a.m.

A number of local politicians are expected to be in attendance, including Assemblyman Tom Torlakson, openly gay Contra Costa Clerk/Recorder-Elections Officer Steve Weir, and county Supervisors Joe Cenciarella, Donna Gerber, and John Gioia.

Tickets for the banquet dinner and dance are \$65 for RCC members and \$75 for non-members. Admission to the dance only is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. ▼

The reception begins at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30. The Round Hill Country Club is located at 3169 Round Hill Road in Alamo. For more information, call RCC at (925) 210-0563.

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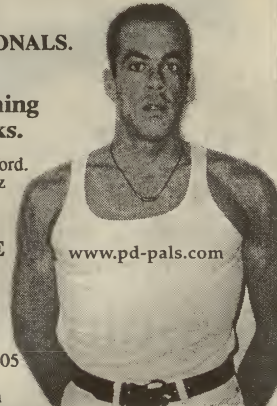
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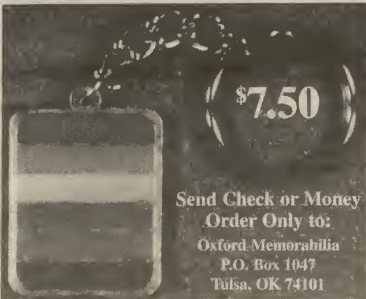
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BULK RATE AVAILABLE TO FUND RAISERS

Protesters hit Gore on pharmaceutical ties

by Bob Roehr

A growing controversy is dogging Vice President Al Gore on the presidential campaign trail, and threatens to undermine his candidacy from the left. It concerns his active support of the pharmaceutical industry in denying drugs to people with AIDS in the poorer nations of the world.

The protest began at Gore's campaign kick-off last Wednesday, June 16 in Carthage, Tennessee and continued the following day at appearances in Manchester, New Hampshire and on Wall Street. AIDS Drugs for Africa, an affinity group of ACT UP, is coordinating the demonstrations.

"We will continue to draw attention to Gore's actions around South Africa and his unconscionable greed until we see signs that policies are changing," said Asia Russell of ACT UP/Philadelphia.

The controversy is over efforts by the government of South Africa to require "compulsory licensing" of AIDS drugs for manufacture in that country. Under the procedure, generic versions of the drugs would be manufactured at much lower cost and the companies would receive royalty payments for use of their patents.

Compulsory licensing is allowed under existing international trade agreements and South African law. The drug companies oppose it, even though they currently sell few of the expensive AIDS drugs in that nation, and

likely would make a greater profit from the royalty than they do now on a small volume of sales.

Gore chairs the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission. He used that position to promote the drug industry perspective, reportedly threatening South Africa with trade reprisals if it pushes for compulsory licensing.

Gore's inner circle of political advisers reads like a "Who's Who" of pharmaceutical lobbyists. It includes men who work or have worked for the trade association PhRMA, and drug powerhouses Merck, Pfizer, Genentech, and

Schering-Plough. The industry has been a major contributor to the Gore campaign.

Public Campaign, a non-partisan advocacy group for campaign reform, illuminated industry motivation when it wrote: AZT "can be purchased on the world market for 42 cents for 300 milligrams, it retails in the U.S. for nearly \$6 a pill."

"It's a matter of conscience," said Boston activist David Scontras. He laments Gore's opposition to getting therapy to more people. "Can we support and vote for anyone who is not helping to

solve the problem?"

Other failures

Gore's record on AIDS is already suspect because of his failure to deliver on an earlier promise. In April 1997 the vice president pledged his support for expansion of Medicaid so that HIV-positive people could get access to therapy before they sicken to an AIDS diagnosis.

The idea was to eliminate the procedural Catch-22 that prevents Medicaid from keeping people healthy, but requires them to first become sick. Only then do

they qualify for anti-HIV therapy.

The administration studied the proposal and six months later declared it would not be "revenue neutral." In non-bureaucratic terms, it would cost money. White House support vanished.

Then in April of this year, some of the best friends of PWAs in Congress introduced the "Early Treatment for HIV Act." It would legislatively expand access to drugs, something that AIDS advocates argued the Clinton administration could have done on its own. The White House has yet to endorse the bill. ▼

AIDS millions stolen in Puerto Rico

by Bob Roehr

Millions of dollars in AIDS funding have been stolen in Puerto Rico, and the full tally of services not delivered, drugs not taken, and lives lost will never be known.

Late Monday, June 14 a federal jury in San Juan convicted three people of stealing a major portion of an estimated \$2.2 million in missing federal AIDS funds for the island. They will be sentenced in September, and could face 15 to 20 years in prison. Justice Secretary Jose Fuentes Agostini is urging the maximum penalty.

The trio were senior administrators in the now-defunct San

Juan AIDS Institute. Six others have already pleaded guilty and at least two other trials are scheduled for later this year.

The scam funneled money into dummy corporations, so money that was meant to serve PWAs instead lined the pockets of administrators and local politicians.

"This isn't just about fraud, it's murder," said Anselmo Fonseca, co-founder of AIDS Patients for Sane Policies, an activist group formed to monitor the trial and assure future accountability in AIDS funding.

"The jury made a very wise decision but we believe this is only the tip of the iceberg," said Jose Fernandez Colon, another mem-

ber of the group.

The island has been enthralled by the stories of fraud exposed during the 58-day trial. Among the revelations, the institute's former controller, Angel Corcino, testified that the former head of San Juan's health department, Pedro Rossello, demanded and received \$250,000 for his 1992 campaign for governor. Rossello, now governor, denies any knowledge of the source of the money and has not been charged.

Rossello chairs the primary campaign efforts of Vice President Al Gore in Puerto Rico and had been promoting himself as a possible Secretary of Health and Human Services in a Gore administration.

'Unconscionable'

"What they did was unconscionable," said Daniel Zingale, executive director of the AIDS Action Council. "We condemn misuse of AIDS funds in the harshest possible terms." He was hesitant to comment while the matter was in trial.

AIDS advocates are concerned with the possible effect of the

scandal on a pending audit of nearly \$9 billion in Ryan White AIDS programs by the General Accounting Office (GAO). Arch-conservative Representative Tom Coburn (R-Okla.) requested the study in April. Other members of Congress subsequently have asked GAO to include their concerns. The report should be completed about the end of this year.

All AIDS advocates support the concept of accountability in federal expenditures but many are troubled by the fact that the effort is being led by Coburn. However, they concede that the GAO has a reputation of strict nonpartisanship. They expect it to turn up some examples of sloppy book-keeping but no other major examples of fraud.

The review is strongly supported by San Francisco activist Michael Petrelis with the Accountability Project, and Wayne Turner with ACT UP/Washington. They hope the study will point to ways that money can be redirected from overhead expenses, such as high salaries, to direct services. ▼



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Our Man Friday

◀ page 11

surging me that he is jumping into the race any day now; can Ammi- and/or Leland Yee be far behind?

Supervisor **Mark Leno** gets high marks with bar owners and employees for calling a hearing last Thursday at a supe's committee with the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) about their silly, short-lived banning of the beer bust fundraisers; the ABC objected, but after Leno's intervention, recanted and said they would no longer object (as long as organizers don't advertise the fundraisers as being "all you can drink").

Governor **Gray Davis**, congratulating state legislative leaders for getting the state budget passed on time, appeared with Assembly Speaker **Antonio Villaraigosa** and Assemblywoman **Carole Migden**, chair of the powerful Assembly Appropriations Committee, thanking them for their "outstanding work." A photo of the three appeared in newspapers across the state (thanks to AP), giving Migden just the kind of statewide publicity any candidate for state office (Migden is often spoken of as a state controller candidate in 2002) dreams of.

And in D.C., congressional financial disclosure reports filed last week show that numerous Bay Area House members - **Nancy Pelosi** (D-San Francisco), **Tom Lantos**

(D-San Mateo), **Ellen Tauscher** (D-Walnut Creek), and **Zoe Lofgren** (D-San Jose) - are, with Senators **Dianne Feinstein** and **Barbara Boxer**, members of the congressional millionaire's club.

Incidentally, even some of Assemblywoman **Audie Bock's** supporters were openly questioning why her staff let her show up on the Assembly floor wearing pajamas during a late night session last week; sure, it got her photo in the papers, but made the lone Green Party Assembly person look pretty silly and only helps assure she will never get re-elected.

Finally, state Attorney General **Bill Lockyer**, giving a commencement address to his alma mater, Sacramento's McGeorge School of Law, touched on a number of issues, including remarks on "If politics were a garden," running down a list of politicians of both parties: **Jerry Brown** would be bamboo: The introduction seemed like a good idea at the time, but you can't get rid of the stuff. **Bob Dornan** would be an avocado: green on the outside, essentially a nut within. **Willie Brown** would be sweet corn: provides an earful and carries a lot of greenery, sucks up all nutrients in the vicinity. **Pete Wilson** would be iceberg lettuce: big head, difficult to transport back East. Lockyer, incidentally, appeared at a fundraiser in the city last night for **Terence Hallinan**; I haven't heard yet what category he puts our 'fightin' D.A. in. ▼

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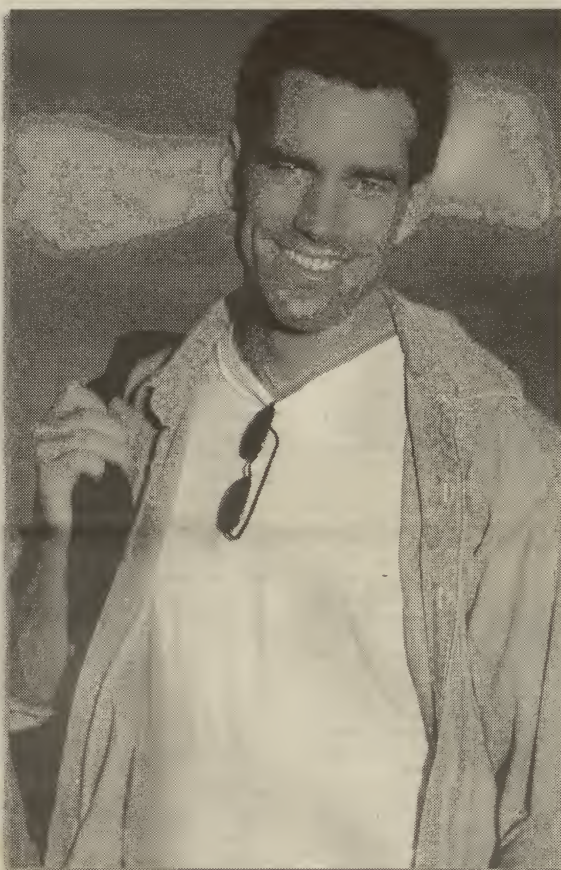
Human Growth Hormone combats the loss of lean body mass in ways other treatments don't.*

SEROSTIM is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia, in combination with antiviral therapy, based on analysis of intermediate effects in studies up to 12 weeks duration.

You may know that wasting robs a person of lean muscle and organ mass, and physical performance. But did you know that it can strike anyone with HIV? At any time? Even while your weight remains constant? That's because you could be adding fat to your body while still losing lean body mass (LBM).

If you are experiencing wasting, discuss with your doctor whether SEROSTIM—human growth hormone—might be right for you.

SEROSTIM rebuilds LBM and improves physical performance while reducing body fat. Studies show that without the LBM you need, you could become weaker, get sick more often and may not live as long as people who are not losing lean body mass; although the clinical significance of treatment-induced weight gain and increasing LBM have not been established. Physical performance was assessed by treadmill exercise testing. Grip strength, another measure of muscle performance may decline, probably due to increased tissue fullness, which sometimes occurs with growth hormone. Subjective assessment of performance was measured in a nine-point questionnaire. SEROSTIM showed significant improvements on two points—change in appearance and overall benefit of therapy—while results of the other measures were inconclusive. Patients who continue to lose weight in their first two weeks of therapy should be reevaluated.



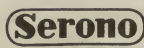
SEROSTIM isn't a steroid, an appetite stimulant or nutritional supplement. It's a completely new anabolic (LBM building) and anti-catabolic (inhibits LBM breakdown) treatment that increases LBM and improves physical performance by interacting with a variety of cell types.

One way to know for sure if your treatment has restored LBM is to ask your doctor about BIA or Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. BIA measures body composition so changes in LBM can be monitored. It takes just 5 minutes and is completely painless. If your physician cannot provide BIA testing, ask him/her to call Serono at 800-714-2437 and a representative will help your physician gain access to a BIA system on your behalf.

People on SEROSTIM may observe side effects. In clinical trials, patients treated with SEROSTIM

noticed muscle and joint soreness (53.7% vs. 33.3% for placebo) and swelling in the hands and feet (27.3% vs. 2.7% for placebo). Physicians rated these symptoms as mild-to-moderate, and in most cases they will subside with continued treatment. Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. SEROSTIM use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Also, SEROSTIM must be used along with anti-HIV drug therapy. Data related to interactions between SEROSTIM and anti-HIV treatments are not yet available.

Wasting is treatable. See your doctor or call the SEROSTIM Access Line at 800-714-2437 to find out about SEROSTIM'S solution.



*Serostim is an anabolic and anticatabolic agent that works by interacting with specific receptors on a variety of cell types. For additional information about Serostim, please refer to the brief summary on the next page.

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Serostim®
(somatotropin (rDNA origin) for injection)

SLI 98-8130

Serostim®

[somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection]

BRIEF SUMMARY. SEE FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION BEFORE PRESCRIBING.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Serostim® (somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection) is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia. This indication is based on analyses of surrogate endpoints in studies of up to 12 weeks in duration. Concomitant anti-viral therapy is necessary (see PRECAUTIONS: General). The continued use of Serostim treatment should be reevaluated in patients who continue to lose weight in the first two weeks of treatment.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Serostim is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to growth hormone.

PRECAUTIONS: General: Serostim therapy should be carried out under the regular guidance of a physician who is experienced in the diagnosis and management of AIDS. Inadequate nutritional intake, malabsorption and hypogonadism, which are common in individuals with AIDS and which may contribute to catabolism and weight loss, should also be monitored and treated.

HIV and Growth Hormone Considerations: In some experimental systems, recombinant human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been shown to potentiate HIV replication in vitro at concentrations ranging from 50-250 ng/ml. There was no increase in virus production when the antiretroviral agents, zidovudine, didanosine or lamivudine were added to the culture medium. Additional in vitro studies have shown that r-hGH does not interfere with the antiviral activity of zalcitabine or stavudine. In the controlled clinical trials, no significant growth hormone-associated increase in viral burden was observed. However, the protocol required all participants to be on concomitant nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of the study. In view of the potential for acceleration of virus replication, it is recommended that HIV+ patients be maintained on nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of Serostim treatment.

Increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly in the hands and feet) and musculoskeletal discomfort (pain, swelling and/or stiffness) may occur during treatment with Serostim, but may resolve spontaneously, with analgesic therapy, or after reducing the frequency of dosing (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Carpal tunnel syndrome may occur during treatment with Serostim. If the symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome do not resolve by decreasing the weekly number of doses of Serostim, it is recommended that treatment be discontinued.

Patients should be informed that allergic reactions are possible and that prompt medical attention should be sought if an allergic reaction occurs. None of the 188 study participants with AIDS wasting who were evaluable for antibody assessments and who were treated with Serostim for the first time developed detectable antibodies to growth hormone (> 4 pg binding). Patients were not rechallenged.

Recombinant Human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been associated with acute pancreatitis.

Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. Serostim use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Patients with other risk factors for glucose intolerance should be monitored closely during Serostim therapy.

No cases of intracranial hypertension (IH) have been observed among patients with AIDS wasting treated with Serostim. The syndrome of IH, with papilledema, visual changes, headache, and nausea and/or vomiting has been reported in a small number of children with growth failure treated with growth hormone products. Nevertheless, fundoscopic evaluation of patients is recommended at the initiation and periodically during the course of Serostim therapy.

Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, and other malignancies are common in HIV+ individuals. There was no increase in the incidence of Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, or in the progression of cutaneous Kaposi's sarcoma in clinical studies of Serostim. Patients with internal KS lesions were excluded from the studies. Potential effects on other malignancies are unknown.

Information For Patients: Patients being treated with Serostim should be informed of the potential benefits and risks associated with treatment. Patients should be instructed to contact their physician should they experience any side effects or discomfort during treatment with Serostim. It is recommended that Serostim be administered using sterile, disposable syringes and needles. Patients should be thoroughly instructed in the importance of proper disposal and cautioned against any reuse of needles and syringes. An appropriate container for the disposal of used syringes and needles should be employed. Patients should be instructed to rotate injection sites to avoid lipodystrophy.

Drug Interactions: Formal in vitro drug interaction studies have not been conducted. No data are available on drug interactions between Serostim and HIV protease inhibitors or the non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term animal studies for carcinogenicity have not been performed with Serostim. There is no evidence from animal studies to date of Serostim-induced mutagenicity or impairment of fertility.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category B. Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits. Doses up to 5 to 10 times the human dose, based on body surface area, have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to Serostim. There are, however, no adequate and well controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Women: It is not known whether Serostim is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Serostim is administered to a nursing woman.

Pediatric Use: In two small studies, 11 children with HIV associated failure to thrive were treated subcutaneously with human growth hormone. In one study, five children (age range, 6 to 17 years) were treated with 0.04 mg/kg/day for 26 weeks. In a second study, six children (age range, 8 to 14 years) were treated with 0.07 mg/kg/day for 4 weeks. Treatment appeared to be well tolerated in both studies. These preliminary data collected in a limited number of patients with HIV associated failure to thrive appear to be consistent with safety observations in growth hormone treated adults with AIDS wasting.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: In two placebo-controlled clinical trials in which 205 patients were treated with Serostim the most common adverse reactions judged to be associated with Serostim were musculoskeletal discomfort and increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly of the hands or feet) (see PRECAUTIONS: General). These symptoms were generally rated by investigators as mild to moderate in severity and usually subsided with continued treatment. Discontinuations as a result of these events were rare.

Because of the diverse clinical manifestations of AIDS, and the frequent occurrence of adverse events associated with underlying disease process, it was often difficult to distinguish adverse events possibly associated with the administration of Serostim from underlying signs or symptoms of AIDS or associated intercurrent illnesses.

Clinical adverse events which occurred during the first 12 weeks of study in at least 10% of those who received Serostim during the two placebo-controlled trials are listed below by treatment group, without regard to causality assessment.

Table 2: Controlled Trials Adverse Events

Adverse Event	Serostim (n=205)	Placebo (n=150)
	%	%
Musculoskeletal discomfort	53.7	33.3
Fever	31.2	29.3
Increased tissue turgor	27.3	2.7
Diarrhea	25.9	20.0
Neuropathy	25.9	17.3
Nausea	25.9	16.0
Headache	19.0	20.7
Abdominal pain	17.1	18.7
Fatigue	17.1	16.0
Leukopenia	15.1	24.7
Albuminuria	15.1	9.3
Granulocytopenia	14.1	21.3
Lymphadenopathy	14.1	16.0
Increased sweating	14.1	8.7
Anorexia	12.2	8.7
Anemia	12.2	8.7
Vomiting	11.7	12.0
SGOT increased	11.7	6.0
Insomnia	11.2	9.3
Tachycardia	11.2	6.0
Hyperglycemia	10.2	6.0
SGPT increased	10.2	5.3

Adverse events that occurred in 1% to less than 10% of study participants receiving Serostim in the two placebo-controlled clinical efficacy studies are listed below by body system. The list of adverse events has been compiled regardless of causal relationship to Serostim.

Body as a Whole: rigors, flu-like symptoms, back pain, malaise, asthenia, carpal tunnel syndrome (see PRECAUTIONS: General), chest pain, hot flashes, allergic reaction. **Gastrointestinal System:** oral leukoplakia, flatulence, dyspepsia, dry mouth, constipation, ulcerative stomatitis, increased amylase, dysphagia, esophagitis, colitis, pancreatitis, rectal disorder, gastritis, tongue ulceration, gingivitis. **Musculoskeletal System:** muscle weakness. **Central and Peripheral Nervous System:** dizziness, convulsions, hypertonia, neuralgia, tremor, encephalopathy, nystagmus, meningism. **Respiratory System:** dyspnea, coughing, sinusitis, upper respiratory tract infection, pharyngitis, rhinitis, pneumonia, bronchitis, increased sputum, respiratory disorder, bronchospasm, pneumonitis, pleurisy. **White Blood Cell and Reticuloendothelial System Disorders:** cervical lymphadenopathy, eosinophilia. **Skin and Appendages:** skin disorder, folliculitis, rash, alopecia, photosensitivity reaction, erythematous rash, pruritus, abnormal pigmentation, seborrhea, dermatitis, skin ulceration, acne, skin discoloration, verruca. **Psychiatric:** depression, anxiety, somnolence, nervousness, appetite increased, amnesia, abnormal thinking. **Metabolic and Nutritional:** hypertriglyceridemia, increased alkaline phosphatase, dehydration, increased creatinine phosphokinase, increased LDH, glycosuria, hypokalemia, cachexia, thirst, acidosis. **Immune System Dysfunction:** moniliasis, bacterial infection, Pneumocystis carinii infection, viral infection, infection, Herpes simplex, sepsis, abscess, fungal infection, Herpes zoster. **Urinary System:** hematuria, urinary tract infection, nocturia. **Liver and Biliary System:** abnormal hepatic function, hepatomegaly, hepatitis. **Vision:** retinitis, abnormal vision, photophobia. **Platelet, Bleeding and Clotting:** thrombocytopenia, purpura. **Cardiovascular, General:** abnormal ECG, heart murmur, hypertension, hypotension. **Application Site:** injection site pain, injection site reaction. **Neoplasms:** Kaposi's sarcoma. **Male Reproductive:** epididymitis, penis disorder, inguinal hernia. **Hearing and Vestibular:** earache, ear disorder, decreasing hearing. **Endocrine:** gynecomastia, male breast pain.

The types and incidences of adverse events reported in an open-label, extension trial and in a single, foreign trial, for up to one year, were not different from, or greater in frequency, than those observed in the primary, placebo-controlled, clinical trials.

OVERDOSAGE

Glucose intolerance can occur with overdosage. Long-term overdosage with growth hormone could result in signs and symptoms of acromegaly.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Serostim® (somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection) should be administered subcutaneously daily at bedtime according to the following dosage recommendations:

Weight Range	Dose*
>55 kg	6 mg SC daily
45-55 kg	5 mg SC daily
35-45 kg	4 mg SC daily

*Based on an approximate daily dosage of 0.1 mg/kg.

In patients who weigh less than 35 kg, Serostim should be administered at a dose of 0.1 mg/kg subcutaneously daily at bedtime.

Dose reductions for side effects felt to be related to treatment with Serostim, which are unresponsive to symptomatic treatment, may be effected by reducing the total daily dose or the number of doses given per week.

In patients who continue to lose weight at week 2, reevaluate for concurrent opportunistic infections or other clinical events. Injection sites should be rotated.

Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients with AIDS have not been established.

Each vial of Serostim 4 mg, 5 mg or 6 mg is reconstituted with 1 mL sterile water for injection. To reconstitute Serostim, inject the diluent into the vial of Serostim aiming the liquid against the glass vial wall. Swirl the vial with a gentle rotary motion until contents are dissolved completely. The Serostim solution should be clear immediately after reconstitution. **DO NOT INJECT** Serostim if the reconstituted product is cloudy immediately after reconstitution or refrigeration. Occasionally, after refrigeration, small colorless particles may be present in the Serostim solution. This is not unusual for proteins like Serostim.

STABILITY AND STORAGE

Before reconstitution: Serostim should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Expiration dates are stated on product labels.

After reconstitution: Use within 24 hours after reconstitution with diluent. The reconstituted solution should be stored under refrigerated conditions (36° - 46°F/2° - 8°C).

Sterile Diluent, 1 mL (Sterile Water for Injection, USP) should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Avoid freezing vials of Serostim and Sterile Diluent.

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Serostim vials containing 4 mg (approximately 12 IU) somatropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0004-7

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Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0005-7

Serostim vials containing 6 mg (approximately 18 IU) somatropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0006-7

Manufactured for: Serono Laboratories, Inc., Randolph, MA 02368

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

February 1998



Serostim®

[somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection]

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SLI 98-8113

Migden puts \$2 million in state budget for HIV organ transplant research

by Cynthia Laird

Last year at this time, AIDS activist Jeff Getty was writing a speech to deliver at the San Francisco Pride celebration, calling upon the medical establishment to provide organ transplants to HIV-positive people in need. One year later, his wish hasn't yet come true, but it is closer to becoming reality. Assemblywoman Carole Migden of San Francisco said Friday, June 18 that the \$80 billion state budget recently approved for the next fiscal year includes \$2 million for research on liver and kidney transplants for people with HIV.

"New drug therapy is dispelling the theory that HIV is a death sentence. There are many people with HIV who are living longer and healthier lives," Migden stated. "Yet, when these people are in need of organ transplants, the medical community

have classified them as terminally ill and have refused the treatment. This money will allow testing and research of kidney and liver transplants for people living with HIV."

The earliest HIV-positive transplant recipients, who underwent the procedure before the advent of protease inhibitors, went on to die from AIDS. With improvements in antiviral therapies extending patients' life expectancies, activists in the Bay Area have lobbied for access to organs – including HIV-infected organs that would otherwise be thrown away – but have not had much success. "Currently, people with HIV who need organ transplants are flying to Pennsylvania," Getty points out. "This cannot continue."

He hopes the allocation of \$2 million will remove one more obstacle for HIV-positive people whose own organs have failed, and says, "Without this important research, MediCal will never pay for these organ transplants in

the future." He also expects the demand for organs, especially livers, to increase as the community becomes more affected by hepatitis C. Liver damage from that disease may take many years to reveal itself, but then may quickly progress to near-total liver failure.

Typically, in order to qualify for an organ transplant, patients must be projected to live for at least five years past the operation. Those with asymptomatic HIV, who will benefit from these transplants, will meet this requirement. The research for these liver and kidney transplants will be conducted through the University of California, San Francisco.

Governor Gray Davis must sign the state budget by June 30. Although he could cut the allocation through a line-item veto, sources tell the B.A.R. that Migden informed Davis she considers organ transplants for HIV-positive people "a pet project," and it is expected to survive the process. ▼

Feds move on medical marijuana

by Bob Roehr

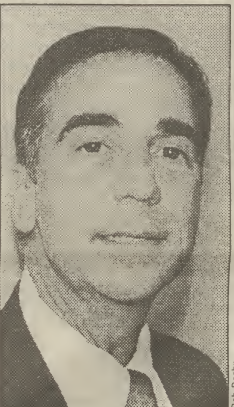
The federal government is quietly taking small steps to loosen access to medical marijuana, at least for researchers. It no longer will require that studies only be conducted under a federal grant, but now will sell pot to serious researchers – although it has erected a series of approval hurdles to qualify.

On Monday, June 14 the National Institute for Drug Abuse (NIDA) released a request for proposal, more commonly referred to as an RFP, essentially contracting out the growing, manufacture, and distribution of its marijuana operations.

The options range from 1.5 to 12 acres of production. That's a lot of research by anyone's definition. It caused marijuana advocates to wax optimistic. Allen St. Pierre, spokesman for the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), swooned, "NIDA's 25-year stranglehold on marijuana research may be loosening."

But NIDA spokesman Steve Gust downplayed the RFP, saying it was "pretty much the same as" the previous five-year contract with an outside supplier. About an acre has been planted in recent years. He said the larger options were included "to cover all possible contingencies," but they may not be exercised.

"Hopefully both of these moves will make it easier for investigators to access higher grade



UCSF medical marijuana researcher Dr. Donald Abrams

marijuana for clinical trials," said Dr. Donald Abrams. He is conducting the only current clinical trial of medical marijuana in the United States, at San Francisco General Hospital.

Abrams criticized the potency of the marijuana supplied through NIDA. The "high grade" product he has been given contains 3.95 percent THC. "A recent study of marijuana purchased in Bay Area cannabis clubs showed that most of the 49 samples tested were at least 8 percent, with an average of nearly 14 percent THC," he said. "The NIDA sample was by far the weakest."

The percentage of active ingredient is important because the

lower the percent, the more one has to smoke to get the desired effect. And the more one smokes, the more one is exposed to undesirable side effects such as particulate matter and possible cancer-causing agents.

"It really is more dangerous to use the marijuana that comes from NIDA than higher potency marijuana," said Rick Doblin, director of the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies.


Gust called the California sample "biased from the get-go." He maintains that the THC content of the marijuana that NIDA supplies is similar to the nationwide average of street drugs seized and analyzed by the Drug Enforcement Agency.

But Gust said, "If there is a demand for it [higher THC content marijuana], we will try to accommodate that."

Hemp hamper?

Meanwhile in San Francisco, Supervisor Mark Leno wants to let urban gardeners grow hemp, a close relative of marijuana but without the THC. Earlier this year North Dakota removed all prohibitions on growing hemp, a plant whose fiber can be used to produce cloth.

The proposal has the city's marijuana growers in a tizzy. They fear that bay breezes will cross-pollinate the closely related plants, producing seeds for next year's marijuana crop that have a significantly reduced THC content. Leno is rethinking his policy initiative. ▼




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Open Hand changes eligibility requirements

Meetings on guidelines this week

by Cynthia Laird

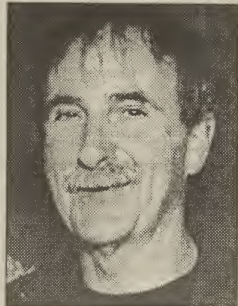
Changes in the HIV/AIDS epidemic have resulted in changes in eligibility criteria for clients of Project Open Hand (POH); starting in July for new clients and as early as August for current clients, people will be asked to reconnect with their physicians and with POH every six months to ascertain each individual's specific needs.

According to POH Executive Director Tom Nolan, the agency's caseload is increasing, its funding is decreasing, but revising the agency's eligibility criteria "hasn't been done since 1992, and the epidemic has changed radically."

The new eligibility criteria set to take effect will require those who are HIV-positive to have at least one of several conditions in the previous six months. Those include medication side effects that persist for more than 21 days; one or more of several HIV-related symptoms that persist for more than 21 days, including diarrhea, peripheral neuropathy that significantly limits standing or ambulation, oral or esophageal lesions preventing adequate nutritional intake, severe anemia causing fatigue or shortness of breath, and wasting, which is defined as the unintentional weight loss of more than 5 percent usual body weight; an opportunistic infection, neoplasm, or AIDS dementia complex; a non-opportunistic infection resulting in bed-rest or significantly reduced activity for more than 10 days; any medical, surgical, or psychiatric hospitalization; and no access to cooking facilities (none of the following: stove, microwave, hot-plate, or electric skillet) and significant difficulty accessing other free food resources.

Perhaps the biggest change is that clients will be asked to pick one of the agency's main food services: either having cooked meals delivered or getting bags of groceries. Nolan told the *Bay Area Reporter* that approximately 900 of POH's 3,200 clients currently receive both hot meals and groceries, and will have to decide which of the services they want to maintain.

The bags of groceries are



Project Open Hand's Tom Nolan

POH's most popular service, by far; about 1,000 hot meals are prepared each day, down from 1,600 to 1,800 in past years.

POH has scheduled town hall meetings in San Francisco and the East Bay for clients and other interested community members to discuss the changes. This Monday, June 28, a meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at POH's San Francisco office, 730 Polk Street, followed by a meeting at POH's Oakland facility, 4700 Telegraph Avenue, on Tuesday, June 29 at 4 p.m. POH serves clients in San Francisco and Alameda counties. Nolan told the *B.A.R.* the agency set up the meetings to get feedback after local AIDS activists suggested in discussions with the agency that it request public input. He also said POH staff members are contacting clients directly to ensure that they don't become alarmed.

Vastly different circumstances

Nolan said POH must change if it is to remain faithful to its mission of "meals with love for people with AIDS." The agency considered many options of reducing overhead, including initiating co-payments for meals; charging \$3 for a bag of groceries; or cutting back operations to five days a week.

"The only answer that's not acceptable is to keep it as it is," said Nolan.

The changes were developed over the last year and a half by what Nolan described as "an eminently qualified task force" that included HIV/AIDS physicians, registered dietitians, board members, and people living with HIV/AIDS.

"We came to the conclusion that we needed to change the way we do business to meet our clients' vastly different circumstances," he said. He explained in a letter sent to clients that with people surviving longer with HIV, POH resources are stretched to feed more people for longer periods of time. "In 1995, 12 percent of our clients had been receiving services for more than five years. In 1998, it has grown to 32 percent. This has brought up the difficult question of how long our programs were designed (or should be) to feed someone. We simply can't afford to do this for years to come, and we want to be here when you really need us."

As Nolan explained the changes to the *B.A.R.* last week, it was evident this was not an easy decision for the agency to make, but was necessary with private fundraising as well as public funds decreasing. POH typically purchases lists of

names of prospective donors and solicits donations by direct mail; lately that hasn't been generating enough money. "There's no new support," Nolan explained. "When we get new lists, we already have most of the names [on them]. People think of it [HIV/AIDS] as a chronic lifetime disability."

POH must also consider the possibility that its payroll will suddenly increase by a quarter of a million dollars if the city passes a living wage ordinance now under consideration. If implemented, the new law would mandate higher wages for the agency's staff. "I told the activists I'm all for the living wage, but for us, that will cost \$250,000 or more a year," Nolan told the *B.A.R.* "These are things that are out of our control."

Nolan, who was hired in 1994 at \$80,000 and did not take a pay raise two years ago, has since gotten a salary increase, which the board approved last year. But, he said, "We don't have anyone here making \$100,000." Nolan said his current salary is "in the high 90s."

About food

Last year, two bequests totaling about \$450,000 prevented POH from having a deficit. "But you can't plan on that," Nolan explained. "If we hadn't had that, we would have had a \$300,000 deficit." POH's annual budget of \$8 million includes \$1 million in senior meal programs the agency took over from the Salvation Army last year, Nolan said.

In an effort to phase in the transition for current clients, Nolan went to Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, and his colleagues on the Finance Committee, Supervisors Leland Yee and Sue Bierman, to request \$150,000 in city funds to give the agency more flexibility in easing in the new requirements. "I've been well received at the Finance Committee," he told the *B.A.R.* Monday, June 21.

Nolan said POH has never based eligibility on a person's finances, and that the majority of new criteria are medical in nature. "In 1992, the criteria was either full-blown AIDS or symptomatic HIV and if you called before 10 we'd deliver meals that night, pending receipt of a doctor's letter," he explained.

"At the heart of this new system is the overriding philosophy that it is up to the client himself or herself to decide what services are most important," Nolan stated in a letter that went out June 15. "Those clients who may not need the same kind of service also will be directed to other agencies that can best help them with their needs."

Nolan said he understands change is a painful thing, but he wants POH to continue its tradition of providing nutritious, hot meals for people who are seriously ill and alone.

"There are three ways to look at Open Hand," he said. "As an AIDS organization, as a food organization, or part of an economic program. We're part of all three, but fundamentally, Project Open Hand has always been about food." ▼

For more information, call POH at (415) 447-2300.

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Fourth in a Series

Want to stay alive and well?

The information presented in this series disputes HIV as the cause of a growing list of old diseases that have been officially categorized as AIDS. Our challenge to the HIV hypothesis should not be interpreted as an excuse to ignore symptoms of illness, or to engage in activities known to compromise health. Decisions regarding health issues should be based on a thorough evaluation of facts including the fact that people who test positive and remain healthy vastly outnumber HIV positives who become ill and die. Those of us who live in health without AIDS drugs share three main characteristics: we focus on wellness, we don't participate in AIDS pharmaceutical research, and we are liberated from unfounded fears of HIV.

Take Charge of Your Health

The natural state of the human body is one of wellness. Our immune system relies on every organ in the body and is the synergistic interaction of all our functioning systems. Illnesses arise when one or more of these systems becomes weakened or overburdened. There are four primary, medically proven causes of immune deficiency that are not infectious or transmitted through blood: malnutrition, chemotherapy (AZT and other toxic AIDS pills), recreational drug abuse and the overuse of pharmaceutical products. Eliminating these causes and initiating a program that includes fresh foods, plenty of water, proper rest, exercise and stress reduction is the first step to overall wellness.

Although pharmaceuticals can be helpful or even lifesaving in certain circumstances, our immune system functions best without them. Prescription drugs are designed to kill invaders, suppress body functions and mask symptoms of disease. For example, antibiotics that destroy harmful bacteria also disrupt the delicate balance of digestive flora and can cause diarrhea and anemia when used on a continuous basis.

Don't Be an AIDS Guinea Pig

Federally funded AIDS research has created a huge demand for human test subjects. AIDS organizations now routinely recruit frightened clients into clinical trials of new treatments or of failed drugs like AZT and thalidomide that have been resurrected and remarketed to HIV positives. Fast track release of AIDS drugs with unknown long term effects turns HIV positives into guinea pigs. Since AIDS drug trials last only a few weeks, scientists learn of devastating adverse effects, from organ damage to physical deformities, only as trusting and compliant patients develop them.

The last frontier of AIDS research is the current multi-billion dollar effort to create a genetically engineered vaccine against HIV. All vaccines work by stimulating production of antibodies that serve as protection from disease. Researchers claim antibodies to HIV elicited by a vaccine will somehow protect people from AIDS, even though naturally occurring antibodies found in people who test HIV positive are considered an indicator of impending sickness and death. As participants in AIDS vaccine experiments become HIV positive after inoculation, researchers have discovered they are unable to distinguish the antibodies induced by the vaccine from naturally occurring HIV antibodies. This problem has been reported in science journals like *Lancet* as "increasingly complicated, raising critical questions for the conduct of all HIV vaccine trials" and underscores the serious risks of participating in unsound medical research.

Stop Living and Loving in Fear

On May 1, 1996 an investigation of AIDS in America hit the front page of the *Wall Street Journal* under a headline that announced "Health Hazard: AIDS Fight Skewed By Federal Campaign Exaggerating Risks." The report that followed compared the portrayal of AIDS by the government's Centers for Disease Control (CDC) with actual facts and concluded that the CDC has intentionally misled the public in most all matters involving AIDS, adopting practices that were declared "more than just dishonest."

Our health and well-being are greatly influenced by our beliefs about HIV and AIDS. Thoughts can be more powerful than any drug or microbe, and living in terror of HIV is guaranteed to produce devastating physiological effects. Since what we believe to be true dictates our thoughts and determines the course of our actions, it is important to remember these facts: AIDS is not a disease. There is no single, unique cause for the illnesses called AIDS. Antibodies of any kind do not cause or predict illness; in fact, they are an indication of a normal healthy immune response. Finally, laboratory tests continuously administered to HIV positives do not measure sickness or wellness and experimental drug treatments are not a replacement for a healthy lifestyle.

Don't be a victim of misinformation. Make important health decisions based on facts, not fear. What If Everything You Thought You Knew About AIDS Was Wrong? is available for a donation of \$8.95 and free to anyone with an inability to pay.*

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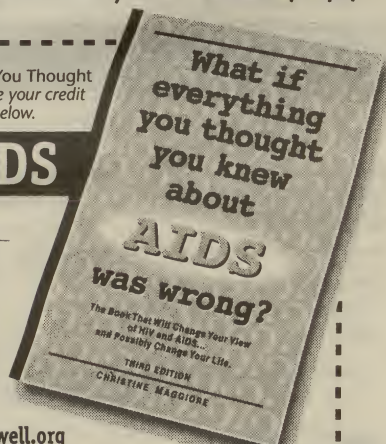
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Leno denounces FDA proposal to ban gay sperm donations

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno introduced a resolution Monday, June 21 urging the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) not to create guidelines that restrict gay and bisexual men from donating sperm.

The FDA recently submitted new guidelines to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that would bar any man who has had sex with another man in the past five years from being a sperm donor, in large part due to irrational fears about HIV



Supervisor Mark Leno

infection.

"These proposed regulations fly in the face of what we know

about HIV transmission and disregard the effective safety protocols we already have in place to eliminate HIV-infected sperm from being used," Leno stated.

If approved in the next few months, the guidelines would also require the sperm of men who wish to father children with a woman they already know to be frozen for six months before insemination. Since only a very low percentage—estimates are one in six men or 16 percent—of sperm survive this process, lesbians would find it nearly impossible to identify a gay man, even one they know and trust, to father their child. ▼

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Oakland kicks in \$60K for Stonewall 30

by Cynthia Laird

Plans for the Stonewall 30 celebration in Oakland in late August are shaping up; the Oakland City Council voted Tuesday, June 8 to allocate \$50,000 to East Bay Pride, producers of the event, to cover all city-related expenses including police, park staff, facilities, janitorial, and rental fees. Pete King, president of East Bay Pride, said the city kicked in another \$10,000 in marketing money to help promote Oakland as a gay-friendly destination for visitors.

Stonewall 30 is taking place starting August 28 in Jack London Square, with a pride parade on water. Opening ceremonies take place September 1, at City Hall, and plans call for the event to be beamed live by satellite to the South African Parliament in Pretoria. Stonewall 30 continues in Johannesburg, South Africa later in September.

"Our goal is to commemorate the spirit of liberation and freedom ignited by the Stonewall Rebellion in 1969 but we are interpreting it in a new way," King said. Many festivities are planned

for the event, including a free concert in Lakeside Park, followed by "the lighting of Lake Merritt," in downtown Oakland where three miles of pink lights and 30 searchlights will be turned on September 1. Pink light bulbs are being sold to people for about \$20 each in one of the fundraising plans for Stonewall 30. Other events include a pride concert, a Labor Day weekend party, a cocktail party and dinner at City Hall honoring 30 gay leaders, and a huge women's dance at the Convention Center on Saturday, September 4.

Large crowds are hoped for at the third annual Oakland Gay Mardi Gras, which this year returns to Preservation Park and has expanded for two days, September 4 and 5. The event, hugely popular its first year and not as

successful last year because of rainy weather, will feature several dance and entertainment stages, community and business exhibitors, arts and crafts, and food and beverages.

Later in September, the old Berkeley Gay Pride Picnic is expected to be re-born. Additionally, another major gay event comes to Oakland in November, when the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force holds its annual Creating Change Conference. ▼

For more information on Stonewall 30, including purchasing a pink light or volunteer opportunities, call East Bay Pride at (510) 663-3980 or e-mail ebaypride@gay.net.

New low income women's clinic to open next week

by Liz Highleyman

A new clinic will open in San Francisco this Monday, June 28 to serve low income and uninsured women. The Women's Community Clinic (WCC) will help fill the void left by the closing last February of the Women's Needs Center (WNC).

The WNC, affiliated with the Haight Ashbury Free Clinic, had been in operation for 30 years and served over 3,000 women per year. An estimated 65,000 women in the city lack adequate medical insurance.

The new WCC will be located at 2166 Hayes Street, Suite 104, north of the Golden Gate Park panhandle, and will provide free medical care to Bay Area women who could not otherwise afford such care. Kim Hildebrand, a volunteer clinician and board member of the WCC, estimates that nearly 2,000 women will use the clinic's services in its first year.

Services will include breast examinations, Pap smears, sexually

transmitted disease screening and treatment, pregnancy testing and counseling, contraception counseling, HIV testing and counseling, and menopausal care. The clinic will be staffed almost entirely by volunteers, and will provide a women-only environment. Clinic hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

According to Hildebrand, the people working to establish the WCC have been "overwhelmed by community support." The clinic has received funding from the Tides Foundation, from grants, and from individual donors. However, the WCC still needs monetary donations for rent and medical supplies to enable it to make free health care available to all local women in need. ▼

Donations for the WWC can be sent to the Women's Community Clinic, PMB 311, 3145 Geary Boulevard, San Francisco, CA 94118.

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OBITUARIES

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Methodists

◀ page 24

inclusion.

Nannette and Bill Graham own a cottage at Historic United Methodist Campground in suburban Chicago, which asserts that it is a tax-exempt affiliate of the United Methodist Church.

Last year, the campground rented a cottage to two men, who camp residents later concluded were gay. These residents held prayer vigils in front of the cottage and chanted scriptures opposed to homosexuality.

When the men were told they would not be allowed to return, the Grahams notified the campground association that they would house the men. The association informed them that this would be against camp policy.

The Graham's daughter then hung signs around the cottage, stating "Gays and lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders, welcome" and that it was a "reconciling" cottage.

The campground association responded with ordering the Grahams to leave by Monday, June 21 or face eviction.

The eviction is not being well received by local Methodist officials, including Bishop Joseph Sprague. Sprague achieved national prominence recently for his role in the trial of the Reverend Greg Dell of Chicago.

"While United Methodists - for theological reasons - has determined that clergy may not celebrate services of holy union for gays and lesbians," Sprague said, "at the same time, the church is very clear in its advocacy of the sacred worth and civil rights of gay and lesbian people." ▼

Synagogues

◀ page 25

a host of federal, state, and local officials addressed the crowd of over 4,000 people. Anti-Defamation League national director Abe Foxman included sexual orientation in his speech, which received several standing ovations and the cheers of GLSEN members who draped their banner reading "Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network" over the balcony.

Foxman said communities should speak out about hate speech by anyone and especially what he called "fringe groups" because "hate speech causes hate action."

Law enforcement officials, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) have almost completed the crime scene investigations and are indicating that they have uncovered valuable clues that will lead to the identity of the arsonists. ▼

Jerry Doolin

December 19, 1945 — May 18, 1999



Jerry Doolin died of a brain tumor on May 18. Jerry died at home, in San Rafael, with his partner, Dave Brown, and his boxer dog, Blanche, by his side. His spirit of love, generosity, kindness, loyalty and devotion to all animals will remain with us always.

Mr. Doolin was a gardener with the city of San Francisco for 11 years, until his retirement in 1997. Born in Boise, Idaho, Jerry attended high school in Sacramento and received a landscape management degree from the College of Marin.

Jerry was a volunteer with Meals of Marin and The Center for Attitudinal Healing. He was a member of The Center support groups and a member of the Contempo Marin Park Purchase Board. Jerry is also survived by his parents, Buck and Helen of Sacramento, and his friends, Daryl of Palm Springs and Carl of Forestville. During the 1970s, Jerry lived and worked with his late partner, Bud, at the Marin Art and Garden Center in Ross. A service will be held there

for Jerry on June 26, and a redwood tree planted in his memory.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Meals of Marin, 1111 E. Francisco Blvd., San Rafael, CA 94901.

Todd Peterson



Todd Peterson, cruelly ripped from our lives June 12. His age was a riddle. Wherever he may have started life, he was the kind of person who had to live here. The most haughty of all pretense-shatters, he

did not suffer fools kindly. His commitment was total, indefatigable, and expecting nothing in return. His wit and enthusiasm could leave one breathless or begging for mercy. He worked in some of the exotic corners of the city, from Enrico and the Portman Hotel to the Nob Hill Adult Theatre, always adding a bit of incendiary excitement. He leaves behind a shattered tribal family of friends and co-workers, because, once connected, Todd became a force in one's life. Of those with whom he started life, he said it best at the passing of his lover: "He was fathered by truth and mothered by love."



In Loving Memory

BILL FOLK

June 25, 1943 - May 25, 1999

Our friend Bill Folk chose to leave this mortal realm on the anniversary of his partner Michael Kile's death. He carefully and thoroughly ordered his affairs, wrapped himself in his favorite Native American blanket, and journeyed beyond this life, listening to Brahms through his earphones.

A native of Bristol, Wisconsin, Bill studied music and art and was devoted to Native American culture. Entering the Army in 1965, he was a medic in Vietnam and qualified as a licensed practical nurse upon his return. First arriving in the Bay Area in 1967, Bill was influenced by the prevailing "counterculture" to explore folk singing and writing, and pursued interests in art therapy and consciousness-raising workshops in the men's and women's movements. He graduated from San Francisco State in 1973 and earned a master's degree in psychology from Cal State College Sonoma in 1975. Moving to Phoenix in 1976, Bill explored his sexuality and acquired a confident and grounded gay identity. He was an early gay rights activist, and helped organize the first Phoenix Gay Pride March in 1981.

Bill returned to San Francisco in 1983. Although uninfected with HIV, Bill was one of the founders and served as the first Executive Director of San Francisco's original STOP AIDS Project from 1985 to 1987. Bill was also a certified family counselor and, with his friend Steven Abbott, offered the first private HIV support groups in San Francisco. In the mid-1980s when San Francisco was internationally renowned for leadership in HIV activism, Bill was a primary spokesperson for sex-positive AIDS prevention. He later worked for Kairos and Shanti projects.

Bill was proud of his artistic skills, both as a musician and a craftsman of fine textiles. He was a prolific songwriter and folk singer, performing his own folk music at concerts for his favorite causes. Aspiring to be a preeminent male troubadour, he produced two commercial recordings of his music. Bill made Native American beadwork, costumes and quilt designs, and created a half dozen beautiful museum-quality quilts. After their stylish 1989 public wedding ceremony at the Conservatory of Flowers in Golden Gate Park, Bill and Michael moved their home, Michael's Quilt Digest Press business, and Bill's Bright Moon Records enterprise to Sea Ranch and Gualala on the Sonoma coast. Returning to the City after Michael's death, Bill created Rainbow Marketing.

Bill is preceded in death by his father Edgar, his brother Jim, and his beloved partner Michael Kile. He is survived by his mother Irene, his sister Sue Gauthier, his brother Bob and sister-in-law Flo, his friends Billy Conrad, Kirk Thomas, and many more friends throughout California, Arizona, the country and the world. Bill requested his memorial occur at Sea Ranch on the Sonoma coast, where he bade farewell to his partner, Michael. We will celebrate Bill's life there on Saturday, July 24th, commending his spirit to the Four Directions through Native American ritual. Those who cannot attend may wish to remember Bill in their thoughts that day. For arrangements, call Kirk at 415/550-0621. Memorial contributions may be directed to (1) the National AIDS Memorial Grove, (2) the NAMES Project, (3) the National Center for Lesbian Rights, or (4) the Golden Gate Business Association. Bill will be remembered for his commitment to AIDS prevention and counseling, for his unique contributions to folk song and art, and for his gentle and loving nature.

Dear Friend, may the Spirit of Buffalo guide you Westward to Father Sun and the Great Mysterious.

FOUR YEARS GONE...

MONTY VALENTINE...CHRIS OLSON...DREW WHITMORE



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THE MEMORY OF ALL THAT
NO, THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME

THE WAY YOUR SMILE JUST BEAMED
THE WAY YOU SANG OFF KEY
THE WAY YOU HAUNT MY DREAMS
NO, THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME

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The changing

by Jim Provenzano

I think I turned John Paulk straight.

In looking through an old address book, actually my first address book, the 1983 *Playgirl* Pocket Address Book, which featured a buff blond sitting naked on a pile of hay on the tiny cover, I found a curious entry.

A few names did not ring a bell. Who were these college chums, and where did they go? One became an acrobat and worked with Cirque Du Soleil. Another died of AIDS. One runs a gallery in New York. Another died of AIDS.

But one of them definitely went somewhere. I had to read the listing a few times to get it.

John Paulk
2034 North High Street 209
Columbus Ohio 43201

That John Paulk? Exodus poster child and *60 Minutes* feature? Full-page ad "look at me, I'm cured of homosexuality" John Paulk? Round-faced to the point of resembling a *South Park* character, but grown-up and with no sense of humor, smirking and obviously torn John Paulk? The John Paulk?

You all know him. You may be unfortunate enough to have had one of their new fascistically comfy ads slither into your living room between margarine commercials.

Last summer, in the most

poorly timed PR campaign since the release of the Edsel, Exodus, with the help of minister and former pro ball jock Reggie White, unleashed a smug series of "you can change" propaganda ads in major newspapers. Shortly thereafter, Matthew Shepard was murdered. Cause and effect? That's still debatable, as Matt's killers have been proven illiterate.

Paulk was interviewed in slews of publications that still have yet to feature a proudly out gay person on their cover, "sharing" his tattered life as a forlorn drag queen in Columbus's demi-monde, which in Ohio terms, is more of a micro-monde. If "Tina" wasn't appreciated, she could have switched eye liners. As a theatre queen, I had plenty.

So why did John go straight? It must be my fault.

I couldn't even recall if I'd ever visited him at this address. Unfortunately, the adventures of youth are the victims of memory loss and a few too many college keg parties.

Perhaps I should visit Columbus on a trip home, just take a peek at what I imagine is one of many run-down student dwellings that fill the streets surrounding Ohio State's campus, each apartment reeking of the sheer funk of twenty-something comings-of-age.

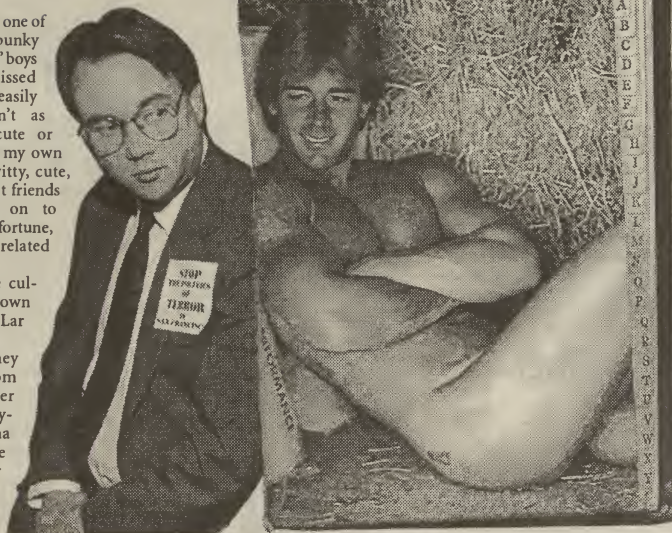
I must have met John in 1984 - George Orwell's worst literary predictions came network-ily true. Amid the sea of Reagan

Youth, I was one of those cute punky "alternative" boys who dismissed others too easily who weren't as witty or cute or brilliant as my own clique of witty, cute, and brilliant friends who went on to fame, some fortune, or AIDS-related deaths.

We were cultured down there: Lar Lubovitch, Devo (they were from Kent, after all), Paul Taylor, Lena Lovitch, The Smiths; they all came to town. Between the Plasmatics

at the Agora and live orchestra accompaniment of Abel Gance's *Napoleon*, every weekend was packed with date material, offering plenty to discuss before and after that first furtive smooch.

Maybe John Paulk saw me in a scanty dance costume at one of many concerts where I performed in Sullivan Hall. Maybe he had a crush on me. Maybe he came to one of those wacky performance art events where I convinced dozens of dancers to twirl around to Philip Glass in the quad. Maybe I never called him, and he got frustrated with one more rejection.



John Paulk photo (left) by Rick Germer

Maybe there was something I found charming about John. Maybe not. Whatever happened, the proof that we met is somewhat like finding a thank you note from Fred Phelps. I did what?

Maybe I rejected John, and from that day forward he became determined to rid himself of the pressures of rejection we all sometimes suffer. He just associated it with gay men. I associate it with publishing corporations bought out by German conglomerates.

I know I didn't sleep with him, or else you'd be reading about this in the *Star*, and fax-modeled from my villa in Tuscany.

But while some memories are lost forever, in that department, I'm cursed with total recall and a shred of integrity that would prevent me from admitting having had sex with the poster child of the next anti-gay Kristallnacht, even if I had. Remember, the first Nazis, the SA, were ex-gays, too, and their pyromania was also preceded by PR.

But I wonder why I found Columbus to be such an empowering totally gay-ifying experience, with each day bringing me new opportunities to come out to new people, or at least be naked and toweling off near new people - this is before they even had a gay community center or bookstore, but thank the Gods they had the Jock Mall known as Larkins Hall.

Was this my advantage? Mere comfort in that sweaty realm where martial arts Zen boys, lanky basketballers, dolphin-like swimmers, and twin gymnasts - yes, twin gymnasts - collided in steam rooms the likes of which San Francisco hasn't seen since the Year of Big Brother?

Why was John's experience one of misery and bad eye makeup? What opportunities did he miss that I had? Did he think gay bliss could only be found at the dance clubs with the turntable perpetually stuck on Madonna's "Borderline"?

Was it the gym, or the art department or the library (oh my

gosh, the Library!) and the half a dozen gay bars that were only a bus ride away, and if that was too distant, fraternity row, and the beer that made their butts so sore the next day?

I remember punk bars and coffee houses where all sorts of jocks and freaks and nerds gathered who made intense friendships and studied all night and nobody shot anybody else because they looked different. We had the National Guard for that.

I remember debating bisexuality in bed with beautiful boys who may have gone one way or another, but at least I was honest and instructional while I held them.

I remember a boy in the showers of Larkins Hall walking right up to me with a stiffy, saying hello, that friendly overture disarming the sexual tension and making way for friendship as well as a great date that to this day makes me smile.

I remember the last days of pre-AIDS sex. Columbus can be cold and grey in that bleak wintry Ohio style, but there was always hope in overheated dorm rooms. The problem wasn't "Where are the gay guys?" The problem was picking which one, because there were so many.

They grow homosexuals in Ohio, cornfed and healthy, and despite the bastion of conservatives and homophobes, they do a pretty good job of it.

So John, if I was rude to you one cruisy night in 1984, if I walked away from you because you had the gall to admit you voted for Reagan, if I didn't respond the way you hoped, and that turned you away from being a part of this glorious, fabulous, unstable, infighting, catty little queer community that I am so happy to be a part of it's making my keyboard turn all blurry now, please accept my sincerest apologies, and consider coming home.

You may not get a husband, but I'm damn sure that, unlike the crew you hang with now, you'll be forgiven. ▼

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Pride's here!

◀ page 1

is singer Joan Baez, who's expected to perform around 3:40 p.m. Headlining the Latin Stage will be the popular group Venga Boys, who are slated to perform around 3:45 p.m.

"I think it's going to be the

most significant pride for a long time," Witherington said, "because it's the last one of the 20th century." ▼

For more on activities for bisexuals, see page 18. For information about the Dyke March and Drag March, see page 20.

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232004

The following person(s) are doing business as, Black Beard. 1112 Howard Street-San Francisco, CA. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Vincent E.J. Black. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 5/20/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/28/99. JUNE 3,10,17,24, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 231976

The following person(s) are doing business as, Energy To Spare (ETS). 530-29th Avenue, San Francisco, CA. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Philip F. Schneider. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 5/27/97. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/27/99. JUNE 3,10,17,24, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 231980

The following person(s) are doing business as, Daniel Castor Editions, LLC. 65 Hill Street, Unit A, San Francisco, CA. 94110. This business is conducted by a limited liability company, signed Daniel Castor. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 5/03/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/27/99. JUNE 3,10,17,24, 1999

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME: FILE NO. 0229756-00

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Daniel Castor Editions. 65 Hill Street, Unit A San Francisco, CA. 94110. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 3/1/99. Name and Address of registrants: Robert Thompson. 2301 Vista Del Mar San Mateo, Ca. 94404, & Daniel Castor. 65 Hill Street, Unit A San Francisco, CA. 94110. This business was conducted by: a General

Partnership. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on: 5/27/99. JUNE 3,10,17,24, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232046

The following person(s) are doing business as, Storyline Productions, 930 Pierce Street, San Francisco, CA. 94115. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Daniel Bruce Geller. 930 Pierce Street, San Francisco, CA. 94115. & Marshall Jay Elsen. 665 Robie Avenue #1 Menlo Park, Ca. 94025. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/1/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/01/99. JUNE 3,10,17,24, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232047

The following person(s) are doing business as, Geller/Goldfine Productions. 930 Pierce Street, San Francisco, CA. 94115. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Daniel Bruce Geller. 930 Pierce Street, San Francisco, CA. 94115. & Dayna Lyn Goldfine. 930 Pierce Street, San Francisco, CA. 94115. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/1/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/01/99. JUNE 3,10,17,24, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232105

The following person(s) are doing business as, Insanity Entertainment. Kiska Rd. San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Roderick Whitley. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06/03/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/02/99. JUNE 10,17,24, JULY 1, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232106

The following person(s) are doing business as, Arkadia International Consulting. 125

Belvedere Street #4. San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Vincent P. Donovan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 04/23/99. JUNE 10,17,24, JULY 1, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 231231

The following person(s) are doing business as, American Institute Of Musical Studies-Travel Dept. 3403-A Cesar Chavez. San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Michael A. Baird. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04/30/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 04/30/99. JUNE 10,17,24, JULY 1, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 231702

The following person(s) are doing business as, 1). Daddy L. 2). Nightcruiser. 4111-18th Street. #9. San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed DL Media, Inc. (CA). The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/01/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/08/99. JUNE 10,17,24, JULY 1, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232060

The following person(s) are doing business as, Massimo Chisselli Design Studio. 414 Mason Street, Suite #602. San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Massimo Brett Chisselli. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06/01/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/01/99. JUNE 10,17,24, JULY 1, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232110

The following person(s) are doing business

as, 1). Ali Baba 2). Ali Baba Express 3). La Shish. 1950 Innes Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Taghreed E. Kishek. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/02/99. JUNE 10,17,24, JULY 1, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232108

The following person(s) are doing business as, New World Moving Company. 2045 San Jose Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Zhi Qing Yu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/02/99. JUNE 10,17,24, JULY 1, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232166

The following person(s) are doing business as, Akshaya Realty. 1855 Mission Street #265, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Mohan Roy Nair. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/04/99. JUNE 10,17,24, JULY 1, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232310

The following person(s) are doing business as, WarrantyNow, LeasingNow. 123 Townsend Street Ste. #550 San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed Ronald Goeden-dorp. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06/01/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/10/99. JUNE 17,24, JULY 1,8, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 232335

The following person(s) are doing business as, Zhen Wa Co. 158 Laura Street, San

Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Zhu, Zhen Hu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/10/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/10/99. JUNE 17,24, JULY 1,8, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 231059

The following person(s) are doing business as, Famous Car Sales. 616 Rutland Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Santana, Demetrius Robinson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 4/23/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 04/23/99. JUNE 17,24, JULY 1,8, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 231491

The following person(s) are doing business as, Renegade Resources. 757 Capp Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Timothy Pacaldo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 5/11/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/11/99. JUNE 17,24, JULY 1,8, 1999

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 304167
In the Matter of the Application of Lawrence Irvin Tipton. For Change of Name. The application of Lawrence Irvin Tipton, for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that Lawrence Irvin Tipton has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to John V. Wood. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in department X-4/206 on the 29th day of July, 1999, at 9:00 o'clock a.m., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. JUNE 17,24, JULY 1,8, 1999

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATMENT FILE NO. 232184

The following person(s) are doing business as, Kira Veritas, 2215-R Market St. #267 San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Marlena Sonn. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/04/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/04/99. **JUNE 24, JULY 1, 8, 15, 1999**

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE, CASE # 271 470

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of John Francis Reed, John F. Reed and John Reed. A petition for probate has been filed by Robert P. Reed, in the Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco, 400 McAllister St. SF, CA 94102. The petition for probate requests that Robert P. Reed be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take any actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held on August 4, 1999, 9:00 am at 400 McAllister, Dept. 13 Room 204 SF, CA 94102. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters

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as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250.

A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the petitioner Cleo D. Allen 629 Arguello Boulevard Suite 303 SF, CA 94118-4063. 415-668-3919

Attachment to the petition for Probate Estate of John Francis Reed. Petitioner requests waiver of bond as he is the proposed administrator of the estate and the sole heir of the estate. Additionally it is estimated that the estate value is less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000). Petitioner's permanent residence is: Robert P. Reed, 2102-East 80th St. Tacoma, WA 98404-4143. Known heirs of the decedent Robert P. Reed (adult brother of decedent) 2102 East 80th St. Tacoma, WA 98404-4143 **JUNE 24, JULY 1, 8, 15, 1999**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO. 304306

In the Matter of the Application of Daryl Jay Dennis For Change of Name. The application of Daryl Jay Dennis for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that Daryl Jay Dennis has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Daryl Jeffrey Gannon. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in department X-4/206 on the 2nd day of August 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JUNE 24, JULY 1, 8, 15, 1999

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STATEMENT FILE NO. 232373
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is conducted by an individual, signed
Catherine L. Crail. The registrant(s) com-
menced to transact business under the
above listed fictitious business name or
names on 6/1/99. The statement was
filed with the County Clerk of the City and
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JUNE 24, JULY 1, 8, 15, 1999

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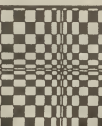
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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN
AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 304158
In the Matter of the Application of Sheri
Lee Mueller For Change of Name. The ap-
plication of Sheri Lee Mueller for change
of name, having been filed in court, and it
appearing from said application that Sheri
Lee Mueller has filed an application
proposing that her name be changed to
Sheri Mueller-Testerman. Now therefore, it
is hereby ordered and directed, that all
persons interested in said matter do ap-
pear before this Court in department X-
4206 on the 15th day of July, 1999, at
9:00 o'clock a.m., of said day to show cause
why the application for change of name
should not be granted.
JUNE 24, JULY 1, 8, 15, 1999

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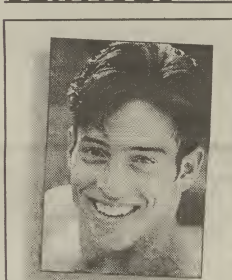
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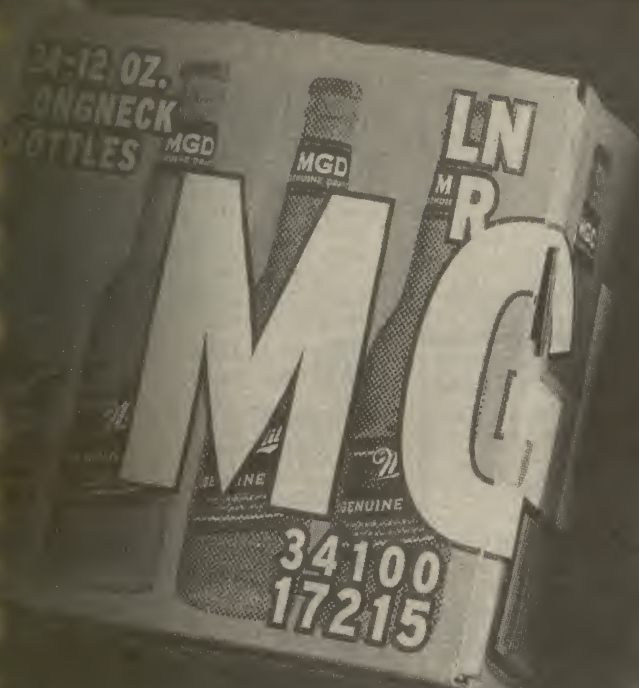
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With time, plus a lot of hard work and intense scholarship, the community has reclaimed the histories of some great LGBT figures of our past. More discoveries are sure to be forthcoming, opening doors off closets that have been long sealed. But the history of our community isn't written only in the lives of the famous. It is also in the stories of the people who live every day on the street.

As we look back on our past and future with equal respect, our community is ripe with both biography and history. Community members talk about the legacy they live in the present day, and where they plan to go tomorrow. It's a legacy of people, still in the making. We hope you enjoy reading about it.

—JANE PHILIPSEN CLELAND

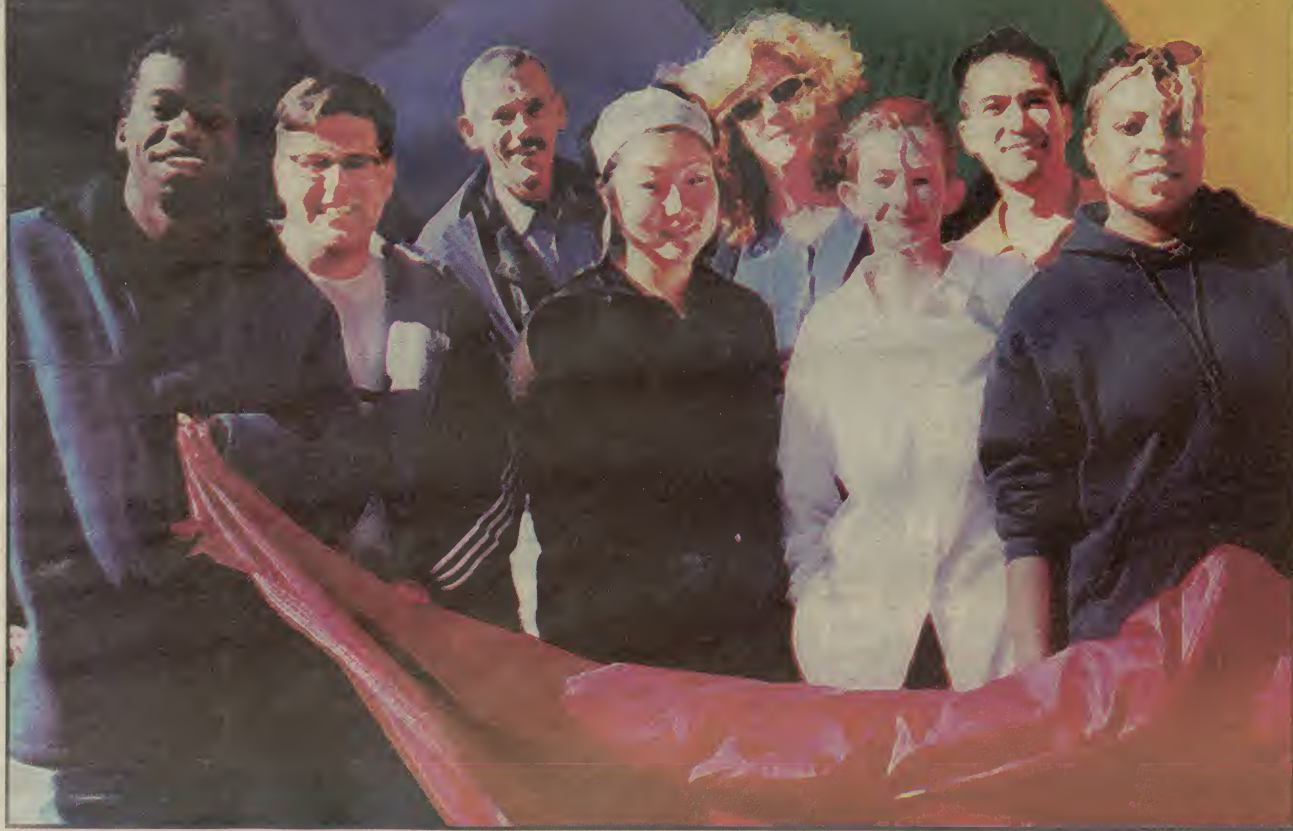
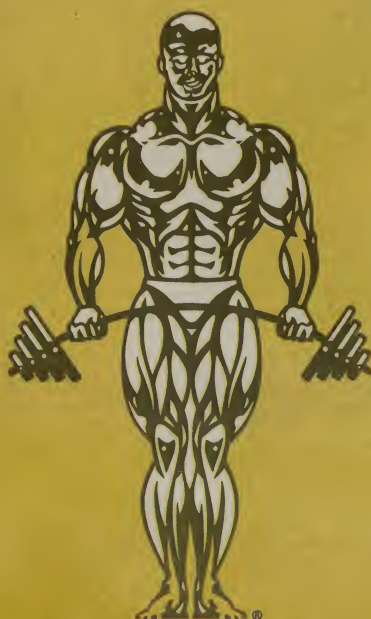


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Harry Hay's amazing journey

by I.A. Kisselman

When Harry Hay heard he had been chosen grand marshal for San Francisco's Pride Parade he reacted with a casual, "Oh, really?" Not that Hay isn't thrilled at the honor, but after 50 years of agitating, rabble-raising, and muckraking, he has learned to take certain things in stride.

After years in obscurity Hay is now getting used to a certain amount of recognition.

Urvashi Vaid, director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, recently called Hay "one of the most influential gay thinkers alive today." Author Studs Terkel, in his recent book *Coming of Age*, describes Hay as "...one of America's most celebrated and outspoken elders..." In the upcoming documentary on Hay's life, City College Queer Studies Chairman Jonathan Katz is even more definitive: "In the long view I think people will remember Harry Hay as the one who launched this country's modern gay rights movement. He's the one who set the structure for the movement that would follow."

The documentary is being created by San Francisco filmmakers Eric Slade and Jack Walsh. "Harry is an amazing guy," says Slade. "The more time I spend with him the more excited I get about telling his story to the world." Slade feels it is time that Harry Hay became "a household word." Slade and Walsh have been filming for the last several years and are excited about a year 2000 debut, to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Mattachine Society.

While Hay was a rabble-rouser from childhood, his gay organizing began in the late 1940s, a time of violence and oppression against homosexuals, when Hay created the country's first successful homosexual rights organization, the Mattachine Society.

Within several years the group spread from its Los Angeles roots to become a nationwide organization, forever changing the course of gay and lesbian civil rights. Mattachine chapters survived in several American cities until very recently.

Hay was the first to publicly call gays and lesbians an oppressed minority in this country, and to insist we deserve equality. While the idea is second nature to the lesbian and gay movement today, it was a truly revolutionary concept in the repressive 1940s and 1950s. Most of his queer contemporaries thought the idea was absurd and potentially damaging to the cause.

The founding of the Mattachine Society and the creation of contemporary gay and lesbian identity, both significant developments in and of themselves, are only part of Hay's story. Hay, like many of his contemporaries, worked to create broad-based coalitions as a means for achieving equality and economic parity in America during the 1930s and 1940s.

He worked in organizing for the then underground and outlawed Committee of Industrial Organizations, which later became the Congress of Industrial Organizations. His lifelong dedication to equality for all Americans made him a tenacious advocate for workers' rights. "Harry is a role model for people working

to create a better society," says Sabina Virgo, founding president of AFSME Local 2620, a government employees' union. "He sees the world through many eyes, which gives him a complete vision and an ability to tie issues together." Virgo is being interviewed for Slade and Walsh's documentary on Hay.

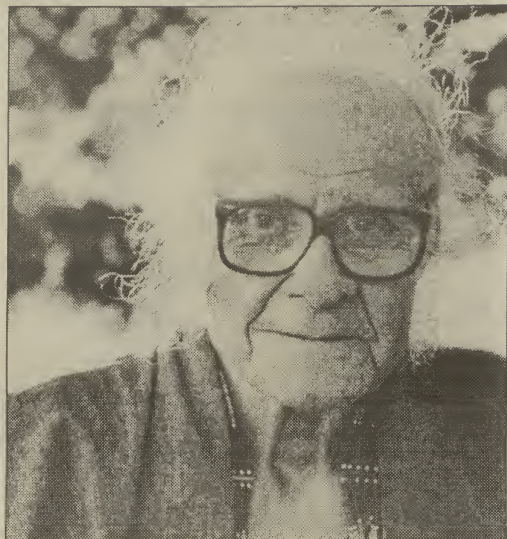
Hay's activist roots began in the 1930s when he became involved with the Los Angeles branch of the Communist Party, quickly becoming a key labor organizer and teacher in that city. While attending San Francisco's General Strike of 1934, with his lover, actor Will Geer (later known to millions as Grandpa Walton in the television series *The Waltons*), Hay recalls, "I heard the bullets of the National Guard whizzing past my ears, and saw a massive movement for basic human rights, and I realized, 'I need to be doing this organizing for my own people.'"

In the late 1940s Hay began teaching music classes relating to his political theories with his exploration of all kinds of music. In

was in his extensive music research that Hay first encountered the term "Mattachine Society," referring to a group of medieval monks. Distressed by the left's official homophobia, Hay was inspired to invite a small group of gay men to the home he shared with fashion designer Rudi Gernreich, later famous as the designer of unisex fashion and the "topless" bathing suit. These covert meetings marked the birth of the Mattachine Society, the first group in the United States formed to fight for gay rights.

This fledgling organization emerged to national prominence when they successfully fought false lewd behavior charges that were brought against member Dale Jennings by the Los Angeles Police Department. Fighting police entrapment in the early 1950s was a bold move, and a brilliant strategy for the new organization.

Hay recalls the trial vividly. "The lawyer put on a brilliant case. And I remember at one point he had Dale on the stand and he said,



Harry Hay: "I saw a massive movement for basic human rights, and realized, 'I need to be doing this organizing for my own people.'"

page 74 ►

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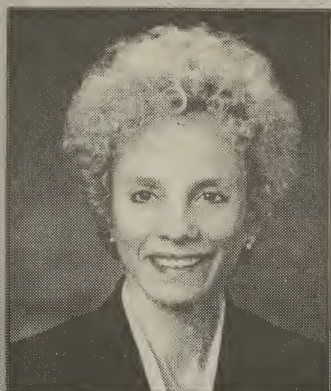
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Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin: "Early on, papers wouldn't write about us, except the bad stuff. Now, you can't pick up a paper without seeing gay coverage."

Lyon and Martin: Consider them married

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco lesbian icons Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon won't be at the San Francisco Pride Parade this year. That's because the couple — who've been together for 46 years — plan to leave today (Thursday, June 24) for Colorado, where they will be

grand marshals in Denver's gay pride celebration this weekend.

Their Denver hosts should be prepared: these are women of vision and opinions — so many, in fact, that their thoughts tumble over themselves in a joyous medley of expressed ideas.

"Our message has to do with violence in the schools and family values," Martin, 78, told the *Bay Area Reporter* in an interview June 18.

Lyon, 74, jumped right into the conversation, "I think that we're glad we're so alive. It's much better than the other option."

"People make a fuss that we've been together so long," Lyon added.

The two women, who in 1955 with six other lesbians founded the Daughters of Bilitis, the first national lesbian organization, have been active for over four decades in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and women's movements.

Martin and Lyon wanted to talk about the future of the LGBT community in a recent interview, and both pointed to the Knight initiative as a focus for organizing. The initiative, authored by state Senator Pete Knight (R-Palm-dale), would define marriage in California as being between one man and one woman. It has qualified for the March 2000 ballot. But besides the Knight initiative, Martin and Lyon are also strong advocates for change and aging in the lesbian community. Both were appointed delegates to the White House Conference on Aging in 1995; Martin was named by U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein and Lyon by Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi.

"There's so much ageism in the community," Lyon said.

Martin and Lyon are both involved in numerous organizations, including the National Organization for Women (NOW). Martin was the first open lesbian elected to the national board of NOW in 1973. But both were quick to say that people don't have to belong to a group to be active advocating for equal rights.

"We're not tied to any particular group," Martin said. "Everybody doesn't have to wait for leadership. Just talking to people helps refute all the lies they [homo-

phobes] tell about us because they [others] see us as human beings. Everybody's too tied to media bites."

Lyon said change has to come in terms of visibility within the LGBT community. Lesbians are less visible, she said.

"Especially in our generation," Martin added.

Both women see positive changes that have occurred over the years.

"Early on, [news] papers wouldn't write about us, except the bad stuff," Martin said. "Now, you can't pick up a paper without [seeing gay coverage]."

Books about lesbians — and the LGBT community in general — now occupy whole buildings, she added. "There's an explosion of information."

"We're going to get squashed," Martin said.

"I know that, honey," Lyon replied.

Both women said they support independent bookstores. "We've already lost a lot of feminist bookstores," Martin lamented.

At an appearance last month before members of the Rainbow Community Center in Contra Costa County, Lyon and Martin talked about the need to respond to the "family values" campaign of the far right. "The first step in changing public attitude is coming out. We must start bringing our same-sex partners to family gatherings, straight as well as gay parties, work-related social events and school reunions. We should put photos of our spouses on our desks and mention them when we tell about our weekend or vacation plans," Martin and Lyon said. "If we do not consider ourselves married, straight America never will either."

Both women see family values as a key issue in both the November 1999 and March 2000 elections.

"A lot of people don't care about marriage," Lyon said. "As Del said, it's not if it passes [same-sex marriage] you have to get married. It's about choice and we should have the same choices. That's why it's important to fight back."

"Activism is so important," Martin added. "Nothing is going

page 72 ►

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Call for an evolution

by Randy Collins

Never one to mince words, Hal Call sat in his porno theatre in San Francisco last week and spoke plainly about the wrongheaded notion that the modern gay rights movement began in 1969 with the Stonewall Inn riots. "Hell," he said, "we had it going on in California for 25 years before that."

He should know; he was there every inch of the way.

Harold Call (technically "Dr. Harold Call," but "Hal" to his associates and "Uncle Hal" to many friends) was born September 20, 1917, and raised in Missouri. During World War II he served 30 months commanding an Army infantry battalion in combat duty in the Pacific, and found that his sexuality didn't interfere with his duties.

"Them GIs jacked off in them trenches," he recalls in his distinctive no-nonsense style. "We were aware of homosexuality in all levels of the military. Let some of those old-timers, those old bastards with stars on their shoulders, let them go to pasture for good if they can't stand it!"

After Call left the Army, he received a degree from the University of Missouri School of Journalism in 1946, and developed and sold off an innovative and flourishing regional newspaper devoted to feature film news and reviews within four years. This valuable experience would repeat itself throughout his long career, although he never dreamed of the drastic change of subject matter that would transpire in the next few decades.

The early 1950s found Call in Chicago working as an ad salesman for the *Kansas City Star*. One night in August 1952, as he and three acquaintances sat in a parked car near a police precinct, they were arrested and held on lewd conduct charges. One of the men couldn't take the heat, and agreed to point the finger at the others. After an \$800 bribe was paid and the case was dismissed, Call decided to head west to San Francisco, a place that was known to tolerate pixies, fairies, and men who enjoyed the company of other men.

As Randy Shilts observed in *The Mayor of Castro Street*, "Only when police chased a Chicago advertising salesman, Hal Call, out of the windy city in 1952, did San Francisco get its first permanent gay activist."

The right to congregate

In February 1953, Call helped to establish the San Francisco chapter of the Mattachine Society, a nearly clandestine social club for homosexual men, the first group of its kind known to exist. Considering that most authorities considered any congregation of more than two suspected homos a public nuisance, as he now recalls, "The early movement got its impetus for outreach from the SF chapter." Mattachine's very existence removed the bottom brick in the wall separating gay rights from human rights. And with one brick gone, other gay people became emboldened to chip away at that wall.

Call acknowledges that this year's San Francisco Pride Parade grand marshal Harry Hay deserves praise — to a point — for founding the society, but he is proud to say he was more active than Hay in those early days.

"Harry deserves accolades," he

says, "but I seized the Mattachine idea in 1953 and did much more with it, holding public meetings, creating *The Mattachine Review* in 1955, publishing more explicitly on sexuality, and assisting researchers in finding realities."

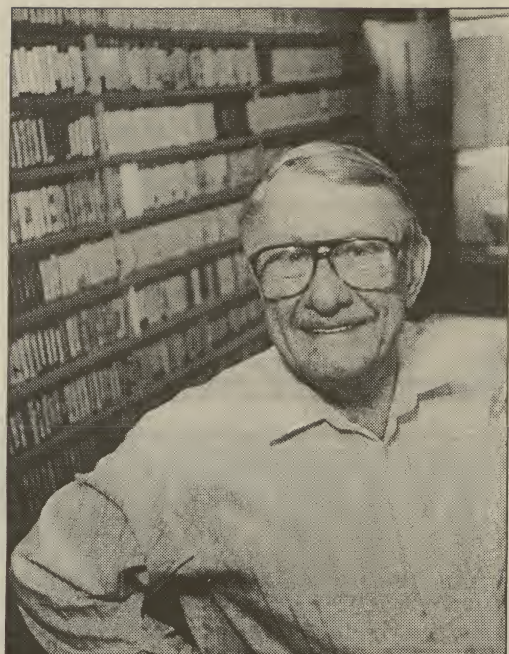
Call's publishing background was a priceless asset that helped give rise to *The Mattachine Review*, one of the first publications to discuss homosexuality openly in America. This was blasphemously radical, and of course the mailing list was secret. Call and his partners founded the Pan Graphic Press in 1954 to publish the *Review* as a labor of love, plus other more commercial publications for profit to keep the ball rolling. "In the 1950s," he recalls, "printed matter on homosexuality was very meager indeed. Most problems centered around law enforcement."

Call is especially proud that he was the first person working on the *Review* to use his real name. "Some people assumed it was a fake name," he says. "Hal Call sounds like a fake name. But it is mine, and I've always used it."

The beginning of tolerance

Call's philosophy was — and is — "Evolution, not Revolution," feeling that assimilation and contribution do more for the movement than confrontation and hostility. He believed at the time of the Stonewall uprising, and still believes, the press placed too much emphasis on its "galvanization and protest because it happened in New York, and the New York attitude is that nothing happens west of the Hudson River."

Call knows better, and remembers a turning point for gay rights that occurred in San Francisco a full 10 years before Stonewall. In 1959, San Francisco Mayor George Christopher was re-elected by a wide margin when his opponent blunderously tried to use the pervert/deviate issue against him, citing his tolerance of Mattachine. Call remembers that as the first instance in which the controversy was used in a political election in the U.S.



Hal Call: "Sometimes I feel that I helped unlock a Pandora's box."

page 57 ►

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A teacher learns

by Pat Kemper

As a youngster, I was very naive. I didn't even think about sex until I was in my 20s and even then it just happened naturally. I think the reason was that I was very interested in getting very good grades, going on to college and getting in some field where I could support myself because my family had very little money. And I didn't want to have to worry about that.

I was naive about sex but the one thing I did know about sex was that if you got involved with a man there was a possibility you might become pregnant and then I would have to abandon my dreams of being independent, and earning my own living.

I really didn't think at all about sex until I fell in love with a woman. And that, I think, is the biggest reason I became a lesbian. I fell in love with a woman who was very much the kind of person I admired. I considered her a soulmate. She was an artist and I have always been very attracted to artists of any kind, no matter what they were involved in. She was a dancer. We had the same goals, we had the same interests, we had the same value system and I tuned into her because she was an underdog as I felt I was kind of an underdog as well, so she brought out my mothering instincts. But we were madly in love.

The women who were important in my life, in terms of role models, were first of all Eleanor



Pat Kemper

Roosevelt. This is before I knew she was bisexual, or a lesbian, whatever. I just admired her no end. I thought she was the kind of person who is very rare and so she was probably my biggest role model.

Then, when I went to college there were two important role models there who were lesbians. I didn't know they were lesbians in

the beginning, but I discovered that they were. One was a teacher of dance. I took a class from her but I was also involved in dance production and she was in charge of that, so I got to know her quite well. (I also baby-sat her cats.) I was very attracted to her because she was the kind of person who respected me. She treated me as an equal. She introduced me to all forms of art such as theater, dance, music, etc. In some of those areas she introduced me to some of the gay artists, the lesbian artists. She was a very funny woman, she was a brilliant woman, probably the smartest person I've ever met in my entire life. She lived with her lover and they seemed to have a very good relationship; they'd been together several years. The other thing I really admired about her is she's had a really strong ethical, and moral sense. And during the time I was in college there was a lot of hoopla about the McCarthyism and signing loyalty oaths and persecuting people who were gay. So the two women I'm talking about fought those kind of things successfully and they were outraged with the demands that were made on them and at great costs to themselves they fought the kinds of things that were going on then.

page 54 ►

A voice to love

by Kate Steinle

"Now, again, poetry, violent, arcane, common, hewn of the commonest living substance into archway, portal, frame I grasp for you, your bloodstained splinters, your ancient and stubborn poise — as the earth trembles — burning out from the grain"

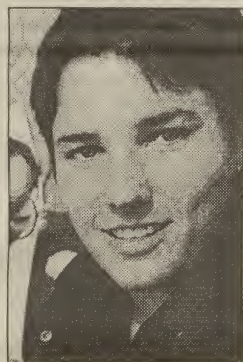
— Adrienne Rich,
from *The Fact of a Doorframe*

I have always wanted to hear her read those words, and others. The words first caught my attention as they were sitting on the page, then I read them, listened to how they sounded in my mind, read them out loud to myself, to others who wanted to hear them, and waited for the time when I could hear them in her voice.

I have never seen Adrienne Rich speak. I have imagined it many times ... how she would carry herself as she walked out on stage, smiled at the crowd and took her seat. I've wondered how she would hold her book as she began her first poem, maybe bend the pages back, hold it with one hand, as I do ... leaving creases where my favorite poems are.

I have never heard Adrienne Rich speak, but I have read her poems imagining her voice. She has, it seems, stolen thoughts from me, rearranged the words, and created poetry. Poetry that has both provided me with an empathetic friend and allowed me to feel the completeness of my loneliness. I can hear her words ringing in me now, "the world tells me I am its creature I am raked by eyes brushed by hands I want to crawl into her for refuge lay my head in the space between her breast and shoulder abnegating power for love as women have done" (from *Splittings*.)

I am inspired by the way she takes my thoughts and feelings



Kate Steinle

and writes. I want to write in her language, or moreover, create one of my own. I want to combine the intensity of anger, passion, lust, love, and loss the way that I see Adrienne Rich doing it over and over again. To harbor the intensity is one thing, to expose it in words, in sounds and images ... is another, and one that Adrienne Rich has mastered. Intensity in reaction to the world and action that causes intensity in the world, that is one way that I can describe her poetry and its effect.

I believe that I have had a few good teachers along the way, people who have helped me learn how to love, who have challenged me to recreate myself while still holding on to my core. It seems strange to place Adrienne Rich in that category, a woman who I have never even met ... but I believe she has a very important place.

Imagine someone saying to you, "I dreamed you were a poem, I say, a poem I wanted to show someone ... and I laugh and fall dreaming again of the desire to show you to everyone I love, to move openly together in the pull of gravity." (from

page 61 ►

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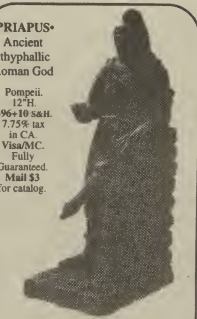
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This guy's identical twin sister

by Jesse N. Bachrach

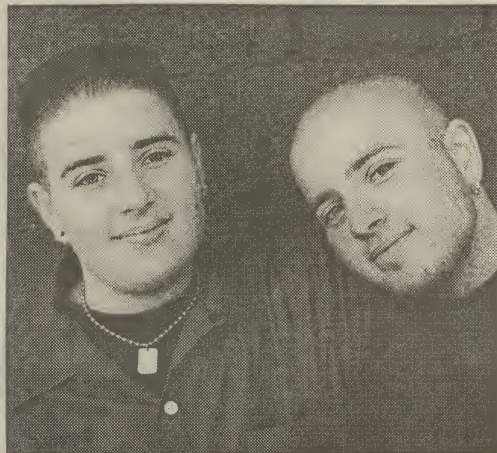
When she was 15, my identical twin sister had her first girlfriend. A short while later I came out as a lesbian. Seven years later, as a transsexual man, I now consider Ari, my twin, one of my queer role models. While at the age of 15 our journeys to come out were different and often contentious, when I came out as transgender at age 20, Ari was paving the way.

Ari started working with the Transgender Community Health Project for the San Francisco Department of Public Health AIDS Office in 1997. This facilitated my first personal contact with transgenders and transsexuals whose identities and experiences were as diverse and idiosyncratic as non-trans folks'. Ari identifies as both a dyke and a transgender person, a butch and sissy, a freak, and a "nice Jewish boy," while most of her co-workers were transsexuals. As a child of transgender experience, I knew virtually nothing about transsexuals when I was

growing up, except that it was definitely not an okay thing to be. For me to be able to meet trans folks of different experiences and see the different ways that I could live in the world as a transgender person provided me the validation that queers in general, but especially trans folks, often do not find in our own communities of origin.

Ari's willingness to claim with pride a transgender identity, as well as her involvement in the trans community, gave me the ability to explore my own trans identity. Because she had no intention to transition, her identity and ideology allowed me the freedom to come out as a transgender man without the pressure to transition.

While unlike Ari I eventually did transition, it was Ari's identity and her work with the transgender community that opened my eyes to the possibilities that were available to me. Throughout my transition process, Ari acted as a peer with whom I could share my changing identity as a queer trans man. Though I have transi-



Ari and Jesse Bachrach: "Ari continually encourages me to allow fluidity in my post-transition identities."

tioned and my identity is expected to be stable, Ari continually encourages me to allow fluidity in my post-transition identities. ▼

Jesse and Ari Bachrach were born and raised in the Bay Area and now live in the East Bay and work in San Francisco.

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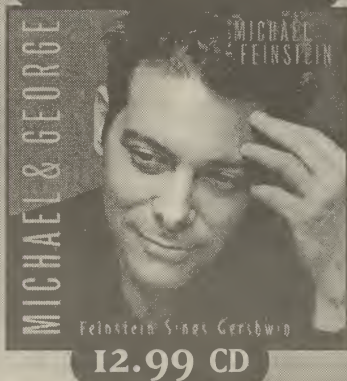
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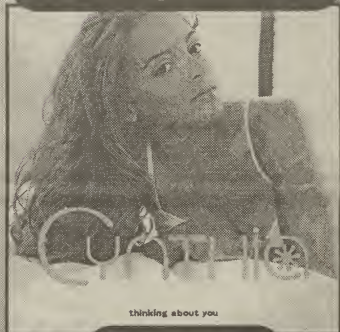
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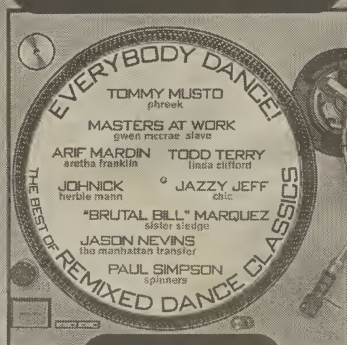
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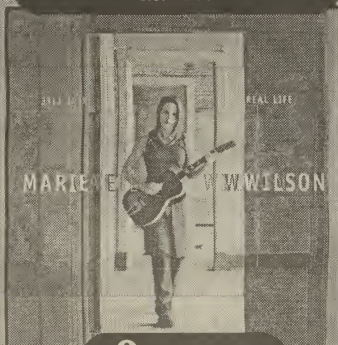
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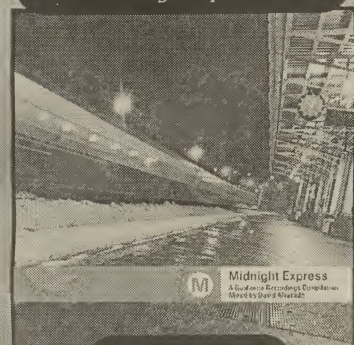
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Find a need and fill it

by Mary Midgett

My mother was born in Trinidad in the British West Indies and she migrated here when she was 12 by way of Canada. My mother said when she arrived in this country she spoke very little English and many of the African-American children made fun of her. My mother and aunt were my role models. My mother emphasized that we must have command of the English language and if we worked hard we could have what we desired, but we must get an education. My mother's definition of getting an education meant reading a lot and going to an institution of higher learning, whether it was a college or trade school. She stressed how important it was for us to become economically independent.

My mother would be called the "Enerzizer bunny" if she was living today. That is what my friends call me. My mother had unlimited energy. She was an activist and a humanitarian; she was before her time. My mother was involved in the community for as long as I can remember. She helped the young and old. She was very involved with the community centers, churches, and varied organizations. Watching my mom showed me the way. Like my mom I found a need and filled it.

I started school a month after I arrived in San Francisco with my children on August 21, 1974, so between work, school, and the

children, who were 9 and 12, my time was limited for a social life. Although my brother lived here in San Francisco and would invite me to his straight parties, and I would invite my straight co-workers to my house for gatherings, in the beginning of 1975, I felt lonely and isolated from gay men and lesbian women.

One day, my co-worker, who was a white male, asked me to go out for a drink; I said yes. By the end of the evening we had both come out to each other and became the best of friends for over 15 years until he died of AIDS. He remained in the closet and didn't know any lesbians. His female friends were heterosexual and white.

A white male was hired upstairs in the center as a secretary, his name was John. We became friends and I discovered that he was not only gay but he knew lesbians. He introduced me to an older lesbian whose name was Betty Shoemaker. She was at that time 63 and very well known in San Francisco and Marin County for her activism. They both lived in a center called Expection House, which was then a rehabilitation center for substance abusers.

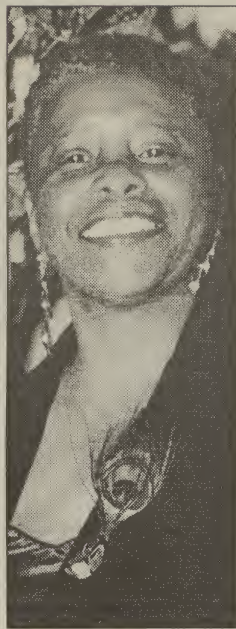
Betty took me to my first gay bar on Polk Street on a Saturday night; it was wall-to-wall white men. I remember the bar had a silver aluminum dance floor. On another Saturday evening, she took me to a bar called Peg's Place on the avenue. I was soon to discover all the women's bars. I

would go alone later, but I didn't see many black women at the bars.

In July 1975, Betty took me to a group called Slightly Older Lesbians at the Women's Center that was on Brady Street. This was the beginning of the Women's Building. There was a black woman at the meeting, and we became friends and lovers later on. During this era there were singing groups and performers such as Cassleberry and Dupre, Gwen Avery, Sylvester, Blackberri, women's salsa bands, and Mary Watkins. Many of these people played at the building and at a coffee house called Artemis, a woman-owned space.

This was the beginning of my activism. Later I was asked to be on the board of Expection House; there were no blacks on the board. I continued some friendships with some of the guys that had been clients and left the house after their allotted stay. Many of them didn't know black lesbians or gay men so we would all go out to parties and dances together that were clean and sober. I met one black man at the house and became his mentor. Later he would join our club, called BAY-BLAG (Bay Area Black Lesbians and Gays).

I continued to go to Oakland to parties and the women's groups, but I still knew a limited number of black women activists in San Francisco. When I would go to a political event where I represented a straight organization as a board member and lesbian, I



Mary Midgett: "A new breed of black gays and lesbians had the same vision: we wanted a political black voice in the community."

would see Gwenn Craig at these events that were 97 percent white people, and a lot of men.

I started a women's support group for all women, straight and lesbian. Then I decided that lesbians needed a group of their own so I facilitated a group for three years. Someone gave my name to the now-defunct Human Rights Foundation, which solicited my services along with Don Tombe and some other men and women to speak at the police academy in San Francisco, the high schools in Berkeley, Mt. Tam High School in Marin County, other Bay Area high schools, Alameda College, Santa Clara University, and San Francisco State University (SFSU).

When the Human Rights Foundation closed its doors, they gave the contract to Community United Against Violence (CUAV) around 1984. I was asked by Diana Christian to be the director of the new speakers bureau because of my experience with the speakers. I did more paperwork than speaking under CUAV, but I continued my presentation that was entitled "Demystifying Homosexuality" at SFSU from 1983 to the present.

From the parties and groups in Oakland and Berkeley I began to meet lesbians who lived in San Francisco. Yet black lesbians that I knew were not active like myself. A club was in the making called Zelema, which Cassleberry and Dupre, Marie Renfro, and others who have since left the city initiated. The club produced the first Black Women's Conference in 1980 called "Becoming Visible." Pat Norman was the keynote speaker. Pat was doing a black women's group in San Francisco. Another sister, Ruth Hughes, was a political activist then and eventually, I met her. I did my first workshop at the conference called "Past, Present, and Future Parents." There were 25 women who attended my workshop who came from Boston, Sacramento, San Jose, and the East Bay. About 300 women attended the conference. I had made my political, social, and educational mark in the black gay, lesbian, and bisexual community.

With the exposure from these events, I was asked by one of my co-workers, who co-authored the first book on bisexuality with

Maggie Rubenstein, to speak at a bisexual conference as a black lesbian. Maggie and Phyllis Lyon, who were teaching at the sex institute on Franklin Street, asked me to do panel presentations at the institute as a black lesbian. At the first Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual People of Color Conference in 1984, I did my second workshop.

We enjoyed the interactions of black men and women together, so out of the conference came BAYBLAG, which started in 1984 with A. Billy S. Jones as co-chair. I served as co-chair with Tony Henry until 1988, when I resigned and relocated to Los Angeles, where I lived and taught in the Los Angeles school district. I joined the Los Angeles Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum.

Before moving to Los Angeles, in 1986 there was a women of color conference at the Women's Building. During the conference, 30 black lesbians met and decided we wanted to have a conference. That was the birth of the NIA, an African-American lesbian collective. Out of the 30 members we had 15 who were committed to the collective and we held our first conference in the Marin Headlands in November 1987.

I returned to San Francisco in March 1990. My political itch and the need to be with the black gay and lesbian community needed to be scratched. I didn't want to be in any leadership role because of my commitment to writing short stories and performing erotica. Many of the men in BAYBLAG had died and the few women who were members lived across the bay and were not active on a large scale. Although we had many men and women who attended our social gatherings, many of them were not activists. We had a mailing list of about 200 and many of them were in the closet because of their professions.

I heard about LGADDA (Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action). Gwenn Craig was very active, along with Randy Miller, Byron McQuarters, Norm Nickens, Alonzo Reese, and many other men whom I had never heard of while BAYBLAG was in existence. These were young men in their late 20s and early 30s. This was a new breed of black gays and lesbians, but we had the same vision: we wanted a political black voice in the community. Because of my work in political, social, and education issues in the black straight and lesbian and gay communities, I was welcomed as the matriarch of the community. I just stepped down as co-chair.

I soon discovered that "the sisters" were in Oakland. I went to the Pacific Center for a black lesbian support group and it was there that I met "the sisters." I started going to the groups at the center. I met women who invited me to their parties. I met Pat Parker, the writer, and many other women who were active in the Oakland area.

"Find a need and fill it." And that is what I did; I am self-motivated. Susan Taylor, the editor in chief of *Essence*, a black women's magazine, said, "Who we are is a necessary step towards who we will be." That is what I am all about. I had a goal when I arrived in San Francisco. I wanted to make a difference in the community. ▼

Mary Midgett is a teacher and longtime community activist.

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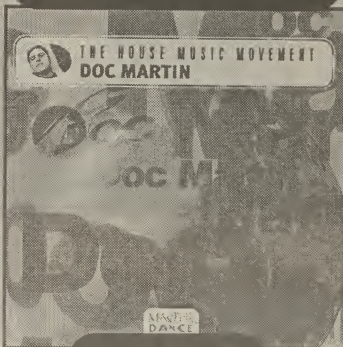
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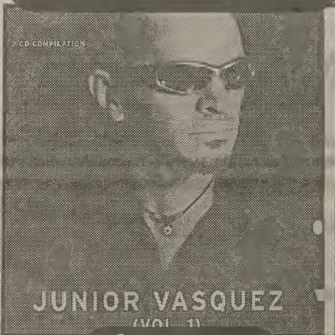
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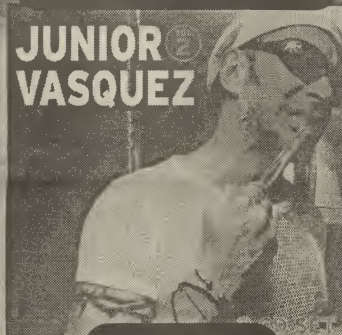
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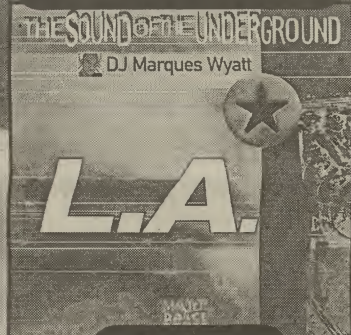
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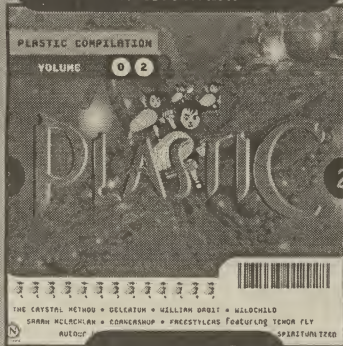
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Susan Stryker: "Yesterday just happens, but history is something we produce."

Neighbor to neighborhood

by Susan Stryker

When I think about "gay pride," I think about history.

What's the content of that pride we queer people talk about so much? Isn't it our accomplishments in spite of being a politically oppressed minority, our triumphs in the face of adversity, the audacity of our very survival? In short, aren't we proud of the

unique and joyous culture we have crafted in the midst of an often hostile and uncomprehending world?

It's all too easy to think of our history as nothing more than our culture the moment after it stops happening, as a kind of dead skin cast off by the living present. It's a pile of toenail clippings, or the formerly fashionable clothes we sometimes find wadded up in a back corner of our closets. Curious, perhaps, but not exactly useful. Within this frame of reference history is seen at best as a luxury for the few who can afford it preserve it; it is more often considered the domain of a few asocial types who'd rather spend their evening buried in a stack of yellowing newspaper than at the city's currently coolest nightclub. At worst it is thought to be completely irrelevant to the pressing needs of the day.

History is obviously something more than that for me. It's something to which I've dedicated a considerable portion of my professional life and energy for many years. I see history as an active and creative process. Yesterday just happens, but history is something we produce. We use it to make the world we live in, and our tomorrows are significantly shaped by the past we remember today. History for me is at the very heart of this ongoing cultural process.

I think about such abstract things every now and then as I work in my office at the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society's Center for the History of Sexual Diversity, in some of the rare spare moments sandwiched between researching, writing, running a nonprofit organization, checking in by phone with my lover or my kids, or sneaking in a game of cards on the Microsoft Hearts Network before my employees catch me.

I think about history most often whenever I look out over the Tenderloin, which lies just across from my fourth-floor office on Market Street between Fifth and Sixth streets. Most people don't remember the Tenderloin as San Francisco's gayest neighborhood, but it is — or at least it was, and perhaps will be again. I can see the building at the corner of Turk and Taylor that used to house an all-night cafeteria called Compton's where drag queens fought back against police harassment one night in 1966, three

years before New York's Stonewall riots. A little farther up Turk Street is the former location of the Gay Activists Alliance's Helping Hand Center, home to the militant Lavender Panthers street patrol. A short-lived group known as California Advancement for Transsexuals Society (CATS) was once located around the corner on Mason Street. All told, over the course of the 20th century there have been more than a hundred queer sites within a three block radius of the corner of Sixth and Market — bars, boarding rooms, bathhouses, bookstores, theaters, the nation's first gay community center, and the headquarters of both of the pioneering homophile groups from the 1950s, the Mattachine Society and the Daughters of Bilitis. The Tenderloin is an old gay historic district.

The Tenderloin and the Sixth Street corridor, a sort of Tenderloin panhandle on the south side of Market Street, is also home to some of the most entrenched poverty and highest crime rates in the city. It still has a substantial queer presence, though not of the fashionable sort. Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center, Larkin Street Youth Project, Hospitality House, North of Market Senior Services, Glide Memorial Methodist Church — all serve a significantly queer clientele. But they are young or old or homeless, transgendered and unemployed, sick or addicted. Many of them do not have white skins.

The Tenderloin has been a "vice" district for more than a hundred years, a neighborhood plagued by social ills, personal frailty, and civic corruption. It was where Barbary Coast nightlife went when it went underground during the morality crusades of the early 20th century that led to Prohibition, where the speakeasies and jazz clubs were in the Roaring Twenties, where the bookie joints, whorehouses, drug dens, and after-hours clubs were until well after World War II. For precisely those reasons it's where the criminalized gay life was concentrated in the days before the sexual liberation movement, and where some of the first courageous steps were taken toward the tenuous freedoms lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people enjoy in this city today.

In the Tenderloin of the early and mid-1960s, before the war in

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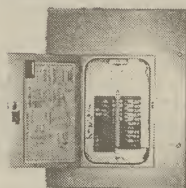
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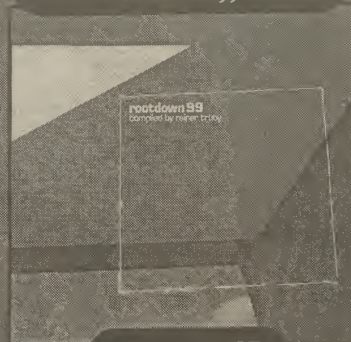
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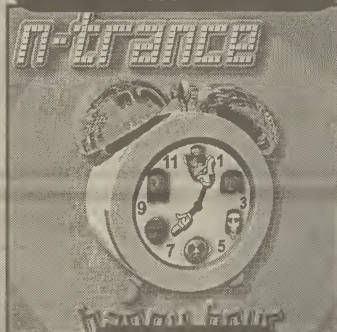
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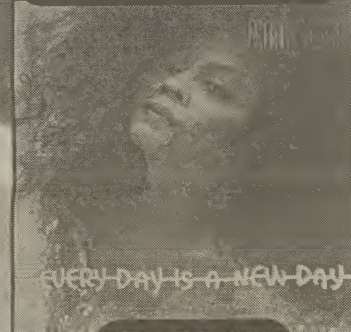
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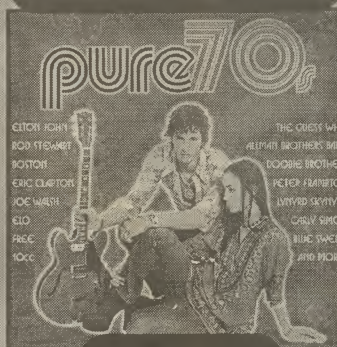
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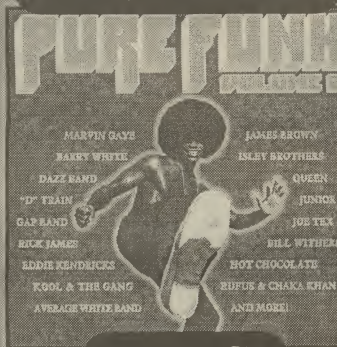
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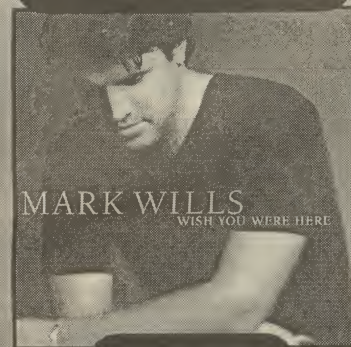
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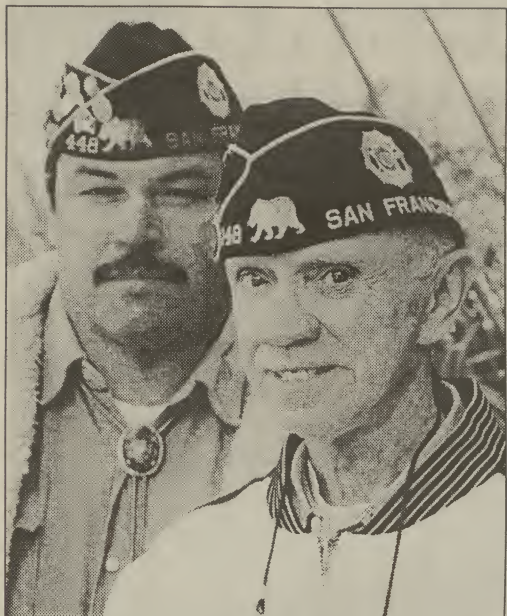
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Mario Benfield and Arch Wilson: "He never stopped thinking of his one desire, be a vigilant fighter for the cause of freedom for all men like himself."

The bravery of a soldier

by Mario Benfield

It was from the rugged mountains of the Allegheny Plateau, where the bugling calls of our great brother, the massive bull elk are heard; that was first gleaned the small voice of Arch Wilson. The feisty lad waxed strong as the son of a commonwealth carpenter, in Stanton, Pennsylvania, in 1923. One of six children born to strong Mrs. Wilson, Arch collected small coins with his tiny fingers, and was soon reared up and schooled under the public register of the Pennsylvania sky.

At the robust age of 19, he enlisted in the Army and served America with diligence during the Great War that raged in Europe and the South Pacific, witnessing the conflagration and rape of the Philippines, yet never raising the sword in combat.

Mastering his infantry weaponry and sharpening his wits with aviation knowledge he expanded his ability to the 1st

Army Headquarters as a stenographer. Making French Morocco and England his stoop, he never stopped thinking of his one desire, be a vigilant fighter for the cause of freedom for all men like himself. The liberty ship that delivered him to the European shores to liberate and deliver that land would one day return him to liberate his own land.

In 1955 he moved to San Francisco, and worked in finances until he retired in 1985. In 1984 he joined with Paul Hardman to create the Alexander Hamilton Veterans Association, which soon became Post 448 of the American Legion.

Wilson's knowledge of veterans rights was expansive as his devotion to the community. He participated with the color guard at the Gay Olympics at Kezar Stadium in 1986 and then on to organize the marches for the post in the nation's capital in 1987 and 1993. So when the decision to block gay participation in the military arose in 1993, Wilson, with

Hardman, moved to liberate the common man from the barbaric isolation of discrimination through hate. This begot the intensive fight for the liberation of a people whose lives, once isolated, were to be forever opened onto a world microscope.

Paul Hardman passed away in 1995. Arch Wilson pressed forward to resolve the now well known injustice, striking down the American Legion to relent their despicable position on gay veterans, thus ending a disgraceful plight in American history. ▼

Mario Benfield is a member of the Alexander Hamilton Post 448 of the American Legion. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from June 1979 to July 1984.

Teacher learns

◀ page 46

The other woman was the chairman of the department. She was an extremely charismatic person, she was an artist, she was one of the people who started the Pasadena Playhouse, she was a brilliant actor. She was an assertive person, as the dance teacher was. And she stood by her beliefs at great cost to herself. She had to sue to get her position back.

So those were the three people that were a great influence on me and of course there were lots of other people too, straight and gay women.

If I come back into this world — and I believe I will because I do believe in reincarnation — I hope to come back as a lesbian. Certainly as a woman, but I'd like to come back as a lesbian. And the reason is because I feel that women are rounder and more, say, intelligent people than men, mainly because they believe in things that do not have to be proved. Now this isn't saying that there aren't men like this as well, but they are more rare, maybe gay men.

Women are more mystical. They don't have to have the backing of the scientific establishment to say this is or that is true. Women are softer, they are able, I think, to be more vulnerable than men, they're more nurturing. (This is all generally speaking.) I think they're more respectful. They at least listen to you if you say something, whereas I think if you say something to a lot of men they just turn their ears off and don't want to hear what it is you're trying to tell them. For me, they [women] have more in common with my interests and the qualities I admire in people.

So that's why I think I'm attracted to women, and when I fell in love and then I realized I was a lesbian, I was absolutely ecstatic. I thought it was the greatest thing that ever happened to me. I felt like a whole person and I was thrilled. I didn't have an ounce of guilt about it. I never have had any guilt about it. But I was wise enough and my lover was wise enough to know that we couldn't run out and proclaim it to the world because we both wanted to be teachers so we had to be very careful about it. But we were both supremely happy and we were together for many, many, many years. ▼

Pat Kemper, 73, is a retired high school teacher and high school guidance consultant. She lives in the East Bay.

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My role models

by Hollis Hardin

Kermit the frog said, "It's not easy being green..." I guess I could modify that to suit my circumstances and say, "It's not easy being gay, especially if you had been married and have three children." I wasn't able to face up to the fact that I was gay until I was about 45 years old. Admitting it to my family, and making the tough choice to leave the marriage was even harder.

Because of this background, the many people that I have looked up to as role models are people who have had to make similar tough choices. The first is my partner, Paul. He went through the same thing and has been able to accomplish something that I have not been able to do. That is, having what I consider an excellent relationship with his son. The two are best friends and I admire that immensely.

Two others are Rick Foster and Greg Hicks. They are a couple, both divorced with children, and have just written a book on happiness. The title is "How We Choose to Be Happy." These are two of the happiest guys in the world. Considering the problems that they encountered in coming out and getting together 12 years ago, I find it amazing that they have such a positive outlook on life and all that it has to offer. Their attitude towards life just seems to rub off on anyone who comes into contact with them. Reading the book has caused me

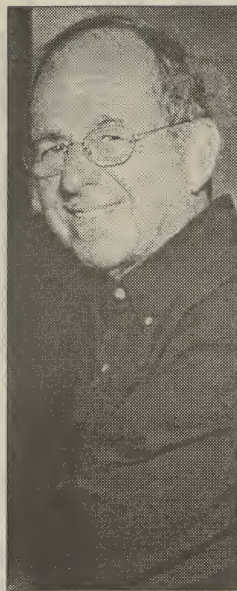
to examine my own life and to make the effort to be even happier than I have been in the past.

I admire many others who devote their lives to public service and community work. The names Mark Leno, Brenda Barnette, Scott Shafer, Dana Van Gorder, Dave Latina, and Susan Leal come readily to mind. Their tireless efforts in making our community and our city a better place for gays never ceases to amaze me. I have had contact with these people mainly through the Community Center Project and some slight involvement in the political process.

I can't help but admire the gay youth of today. They are certainly more honest with themselves than I was able to be while growing up. I admire their courage to be open to their peer group at an age when being "different" is the kiss of death. By being honest about themselves now, they will grow up to be stronger people.

I admire the many individuals who contribute financially to our community's causes. The Community Center Project is near and dear to my heart, having worked on the board for about two years. Organizations which are fighting to conquer the AIDS virus are another favorite cause. The people who work behind the scenes, quietly donating their time and money without the expectation of recognition are all high on my list.

Who are my role models? They are my closest friends. They are the many members of our community who contribute to society, set good examples by their posi-

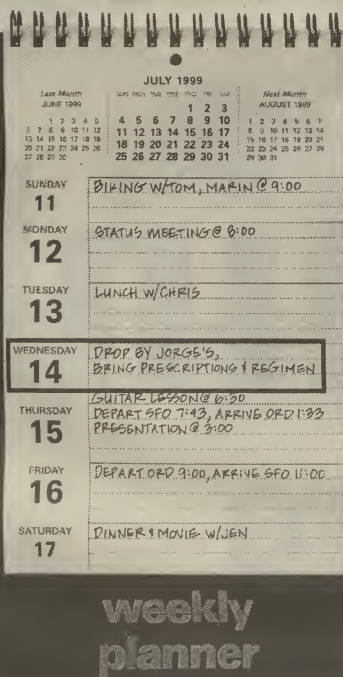


Rick Gerhart

Hollis Hardin: "The gay youth of today are certainly more honest with themselves than I was able to be while growing up."

tive actions and work to make us more accepted by the mainstream society. ▼

Hollis Hardin is a Certified Public Accountant and until recently served on the board of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center Project. He moved to the Bay Area from Illinois 37 years ago.



What's the highlight of your day?

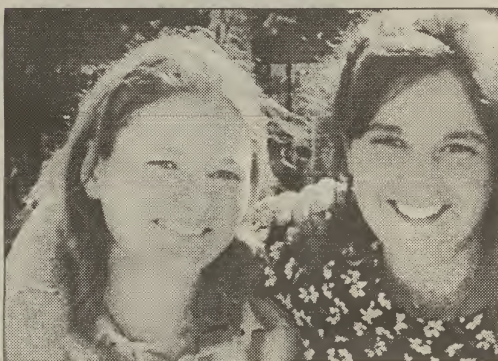
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Tina Krauss (left) with Alison

The eye-opener

by tina krauss

When coming out, everyone seems to influence the process. You become hypersensitive to every thing around you, especially sexuality. You begin to notice the true attitudes of your friends and family. And then, just when you think the world is out to get you, you look up, and there is this amazing person standing before you. You think to yourself, how did they get there? They are so comfortable, so strong, in their sexuality, in themselves, and you think to yourself, that is who I want to be.

I met Alison about five years ago, when I was first coming out. Like most college kids, I was very naive and therefore, very narrow minded. I.e., an annoying baby dyke. I fell for Alison quickly. She had this strength to her, didn't care what

people thought. She had this awareness, both politically active in the multicultural community and in university and city government. I learned from her to truly open my mind and see outside the white gay community I lived in. To be aware of other people, other communities and other identities. To find myself and become that person, rather than following the trends.

Alison and I started out from very different communities, opposite sides of the track. Now we've established a lifelong friendship. There is so much that I could say about her influence on me. That's why I'm sending out my props to one of the most admirable people I know. Love ya, Ali. ▼

Tina Krauss, 23, graduated from Washington State University and now volunteers at LYRIC and the Harvey Milk Institute.

Hal Call

◀ page 45

Another turning point came on New Year's Eve 1964-65, when San Francisco vice officers raided a drag charity ball at California Hall even though no sexual activity had occurred. (In fact, not only was everyone fully clothed, but a host of politicians and clergy were attending, to the chagrin of the police.) Charges were dismissed and the absurdity of the bust led the general public to a sentiment of basic tolerance. It also began a long process of the gay community and law enforcement getting to know each other better.

Call believes those examples of quiet change were at least as momentous as Stonewall, but the New York riot got more attention because descriptions of drag queens waging war with flying parking meters "was a delicious diet for the salacious voracious media to feed on."

Another pre-Stonewall milestone, according to Call, was a landmark 1967 federal court case where Conrad Germain and Lloyd Spinar of DSI Sales in Minnesota were charged with 29 counts of producing and mailing obscene materials, simply because the DSI materials appealed primarily to homosexuals. Call helped secure and organize expert witnesses who testified on behalf of DSI, and against government prosecutors' contention that anything gay-related was automatically obscene.

The court's stunning seven-page decision ruled that nudity was not obscene and that "the materials have no appeal to the prurient interest of the intended recipient deviant group; do not exceed the limits of candor toler-

ated by the contemporary national community; and are not utterly without redeeming social value. Furthermore, the court concludes that the evidence does not suggest pandering..."

Directly addressing the subject of homosexuality, the court said, "The rights of minorities expressed individually in sexual groups or otherwise must be respected. With increasing research and study, we will in the future come to a better understanding of ourselves, sexual deviants, and others."

That year Call also appeared on a CBS documentary *The Homosexuals*, hosted by Mike Wallace. Speaking as a Mattachine Society spokesperson, Call argued for decriminalization of consensual sex. "What adults do willingly in private is their own affair," he said, a tame statement by today's standards but at the limits of what network censors would allow at the time.

Victim of success

Gradually the standards for speaking about homosexuality got more and more frank, both inside the community and outside, and taste in gay periodicals changed – ironically, the DSI case opened the floodgates to a new generation of explicit publications, and the *Review* no longer had the impact it had once enjoyed.

Now, Call says, "Sometimes I feel that I helped unlock a Pandora's box." With a new generation of in-your-face "gay lib" activists changing the emphasis of the movement, Mattachine reluctantly folded up the *Review* and became relatively dormant. Call kept the Pan Graphic Press cranking out locally-produced gay-related publications, and in the early

1970s he opened an adult bookstore, the Adonis, on Ellis Street. Adonis carried the magazines, books, and eight-millimeter films that proliferated during that era of nearly unrestricted freedom from censorship. At some point in the 1970s – Call doesn't bother to remember when – the store was busted on obscenity charges, but he refused to budge in his belief in freedom of the press, and the charges were dropped.

Also that decade, the Adonis bookstore begot the Circle J Cinema, currently incarnated as a review parlor and jackoff club where businessmen, trolls, punks, military men, working-class dudes, and occasional college gay-bos brave the rough neighborhood to watch a collection of more than 5,000 movies. Patrons sit on vinyl church pews that Call bought from some East Bay Puritans in the decadent 1970s as they review three screens, each rotating three shows, totaling nine features in about four hours.

Pews or no pews, this is no Sunday School.

A visit upstairs (if the doctor is seeing patients) will reveal the video library, where Call sits watching nine screens of hardcore action in the background, with one screen on CNN in the foreground. A bottle of vodka – with a pump – sits in the corner for Wednesday and Saturday social visits with drinking chums who, with Call, religiously watch *Jeopardy* and *Wheel of Fortune* in front of and oblivious to the nine screens of naked action.

Sharp and articulate at 82, Call blurts out the majority of the answers before the contestants. Unfortunately, cancer was discovered in his lymph nodes last year so he speaks more softly than he used to.

He does not, however, speak less bluntly. He still denounces excessive activism and last week advised Generation X gays to "be concerned less about being discriminated against and more concerned about declaring themselves part of the mainstream and part of total society." (Also to "avoid or minimize anal sex play.")

"There will be more out of the closet gays than we've ever seen before" in this generation, he predicts. "Get accustomed to that changing reality. Discrimination is diminishing."

Many people would like to make that prediction, but Call has the history to add weight to his opinion – and the credentials. He is, after all, a doctor (having received the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality's honorary Doctorate of Arts in Erotology – the study of erotica – in 1991).

In 1995, he donated \$50,000 of Mattachine money to the new gay studies program at the University of Southern California under the auspices of the One, Inc. Foundation, a Mattachine counterpart and colleague group. USC now offers fully accredited gay studies, houses the Mattachine and One, Inc. archives in its library building – and even boasts an all-gay dorm and pool – all thanks to private funding by contributions from Call and others.

As for Call himself, he's looking for fun, and describes his quest as that of "an 80-something video-obsessive Viagra freak with 5,000 sex tapes and nine screens, looking for the company of all makes 19-90."

Interested men should apply, in person, at the Circle J. ▼

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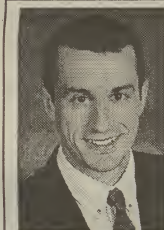
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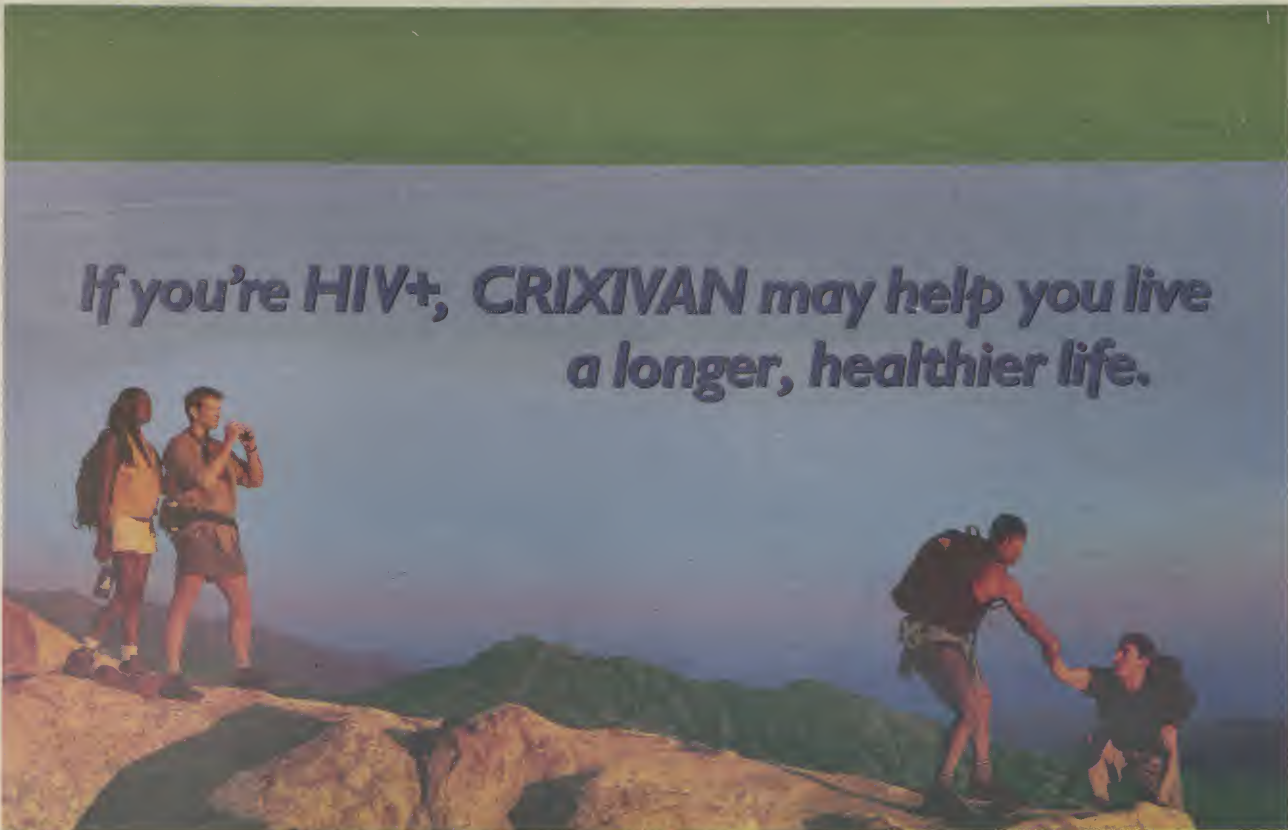
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■ **CRIXIVAN in triple therapy continues to hold serum viral load down below the limit of detection at the one year mark.**

In a separate, ongoing landmark study, over 90% of the 31 patients receiving CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC reduced their HIV serum viral load below the limit of detection after 24 weeks (as measured by available tests; the virus may still be present in other organ systems). Importantly, the limited number of patients who chose to stay with the study for longer periods of time maintained these results through the one year mark.

■ **CRIXIVAN is generally well tolerated.**

CRIXIVAN can be taken with a light meal or on an empty stomach. There are side effects associated with protease inhibitors in general and CRIXIVAN in particular. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN may develop kidney stones. For some, this can lead to more severe kidney problems including kidney failure. Drinking at least 6 glasses of water each day may help reduce the chance of forming a kidney stone. Other side effects reported include rapid breakdown of red blood cells and liver problems. There are some common medications and AIDS-related medications you should not take with CRIXIVAN. As with other protease inhibitors, severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients also taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins". Discuss all medications you are taking or plan to take with your doctor. Additionally, as with other protease inhibitors, increased bleeding in some patients with hemophilia and increased blood sugar levels or diabetes have been reported. Please read the following page for detailed information on side effects and dosing.

Please read the following page for more detailed information about CRIXIVAN.

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce the chance of illnesses and death associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 T-cell count. Some patients may not experience these effects. CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS.

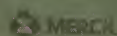
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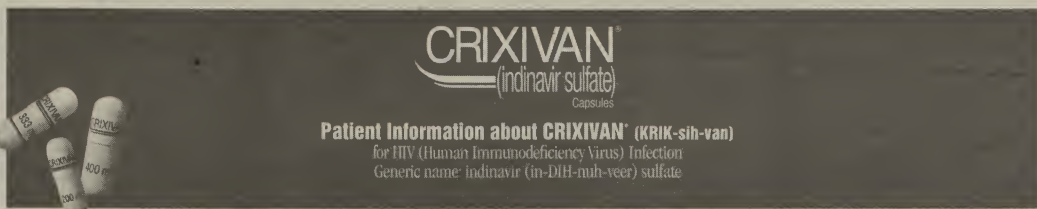
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Please read this information before you start taking CRIXIVAN. Also, you should read the information included with CRIXIVAN each time you receive your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this information does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss CRIXIVAN when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when using CRIXIVAN and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

What is CRIXIVAN?

CRIXIVAN is an oral capsule used for the treatment of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). CRIXIVAN is a type of HIV drug called a protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor.

How does CRIXIVAN work?

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients. CRIXIVAN is usually prescribed with other anti-HIV drugs such as ZDV (also called AZT), 3TC, ddI, ddC, or d4T. CRIXIVAN works differently from these other anti-HIV drugs. Talk with your doctor about how you should take CRIXIVAN.

CRIXIVAN has been studied in adults. The safety and effectiveness of CRIXIVAN in children and adolescents have not been established.

How should I take CRIXIVAN?

There are six important things you must do to help you benefit from CRIXIVAN:

1. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every day as prescribed by your doctor.** Continue taking CRIXIVAN unless your doctor tells you to stop. Take the exact amount of CRIXIVAN that your doctor tells you to take, right from the very start. To help make sure you will benefit from CRIXIVAN, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays." If you don't take CRIXIVAN as prescribed, the activity of CRIXIVAN may be reduced (due to resistance).
2. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, every day.** It may be easier to remember to take CRIXIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIXIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
3. **If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.** However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIXIVAN at any one time.
4. **Take CRIXIVAN with water.** You can also take CRIXIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
5. **Ideally, take each dose of CRIXIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal.** Or you can take CRIXIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include:
 - dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want)
 - corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar
 Do not take CRIXIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIXIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIXIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.
6. **It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) throughout the day, every day. CRIXIVAN can cause kidney stones.** Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Does CRIXIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking CRIXIVAN may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important for you to remain under the care of a doctor. Although CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses, including death, associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

Does CRIXIVAN reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

CRIXIVAN has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should not take CRIXIVAN?

Do not take CRIXIVAN if you have had a serious allergic reaction to CRIXIVAN or any of its components.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIXIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIXIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
- You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIXIVAN.

Also talk to your doctor if you have:

- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Diabetes
- Hemophilia
- High cholesterol and you are taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins."

Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines.

This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep CRIXIVAN and all medicines out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

This provides a summary of information about CRIXIVAN. If you have any questions or concerns about either CRIXIVAN or HIV, talk to your doctor.

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Can CRIXIVAN be taken with other medications?*

Drugs you should not take with CRIXIVAN:

SELDANE® (terfenadine)	HISMANAL® (astemizole)
VERSED® (midazolam)	HALCION® (triazolam)
PROPULSID® (cisapride)	Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

Taking CRIXIVAN with the above medications could result in serious or life-threatening problems (such as irregular heartbeat or excessive sleepiness).

In addition, you should not take CRIXIVAN with rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.

Drugs you can take with CRIXIVAN include:

RETROVIR® (zidovudine, ZDV also called AZT)	BIAXIN® (clarithromycin)
TAGAMET® (cimetidine)	isoniazid (INH)
DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole)	ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive)
EPIVIR® (lamivudine, 3TC)	ZERIT® (stavudine, d4T)
BACTRIM®/SEPTA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)	

VIDEX® (didanosine, ddI) — If you take CRIXIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart.

MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIXIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIXIVAN.

NIZORAL® (ketoconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with NIZORAL®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of CRIXIVAN?

Like all prescription drugs, CRIXIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIXIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this page alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had rapid breakdown of red blood cells (hemolytic anemia) which in some cases was severe or resulted in death.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had liver problems including liver failure and death. Some patients had other illnesses or were taking other drugs. It is uncertain if CRIXIVAN caused these liver problems.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors. In some of these patients, this led to ketoacidosis, a serious condition caused by poorly controlled blood sugar. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients required adjustments to their diabetes medication. Others needed new diabetes medication.

In some patients with hemophilia, increased bleeding has been reported.

Severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors, including CRIXIVAN, together with some of the cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." Call your doctor if you develop severe muscle pain or weakness.

Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of patients. Usually, this finding has not been associated with liver problems. However, on rare occasions, a person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, flank pain, feeling unwell, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, loss of appetite, dry mouth, back pain, headache, trouble sleeping, dizziness, taste changes, rash, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat.

Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

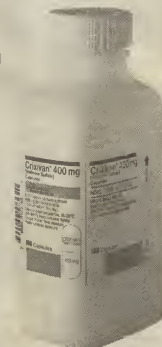
Marketing Experience

Other side effects reported since CRIXIVAN has been marketed include: allergic reactions; severe skin reactions; abdominal swelling; inflammation of the kidneys; inflammation of the pancreas; increased fat appearing in areas such as the neck, breasts, abdomen, and back; change in skin color; hair loss; ingrown toenails with or without infection; crystals in the urine; and numbness of the mouth.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

How should I store CRIXIVAN capsules?

- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules in the bottle they came in and at room temperature (59°F–86°F).
- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules dry by leaving the small desiccant "pillow" in the bottle. Keep the bottle closed.



CRIXIVAN®
(indinavir sulfate)
Capsules

A family of idealists

by Sierra C. Spingarn

In 1913 the Spingarn Medal was created by the NAACP to honor the African-American person whose accomplishments had most significantly benefited their community during the past year, and it is still awarded to this day. The Spingarn Medal was named for Joel Elias and Arthur Barnett Spingarn, two white, Jewish, upper-middle class brothers from New York who had a vision of bettering society for all people in a time when acceptance was rare in our country. With hopes of actualizing their goals, they founded the NAACP and saw its progress through until both of their deaths in 1939 and 1967 respectively.

Joel Elias Spingarn was a highly respected literary critic and his younger brother, Arthur Barnett, graduated with a degree in law from Columbia University, and was a member of the New York State Bar. Both were considered radicals in their time, mostly for their dedicated work with the African-American community. However, Arthur was also known for his extensive work as police counsel, especially in civil rights abuse cases, and Joel was noted for his constant denouncement of the judgment of art based on social and moral norms, instead of aesthetic purpose and pure artistic value.

The ideals that Joel and Arthur held may not seem particularly impressive in our modern society, but their outspoken lifestyles have served as a constant reminder to me that activism can be a driving and influential force in any community, at any time, even in the face of great adversity. It is this tradition of steadfast commitment to social change and improvement of life for all beings that gives me motivation each day to face the injustices of our world and try to fix them. It is a tradition that runs in my blood and I can only hope that, through my own activism and revolutionary lifestyle, I may honor the idealism and continue the perpetuation of the dreams of Joel Elias Spingarn and Arthur Barnett Spingarn. They were my great, great uncles, and I regret that I never had the privilege of meeting them face to face, for they hold a place in my heart that drives me onward with every new struggle. ▼

Sierra Spingarn grew up in the East Bay, lives in Oakland, and considers herself to be a queer youth activist. She works part time at LYRIC and is also a musician.

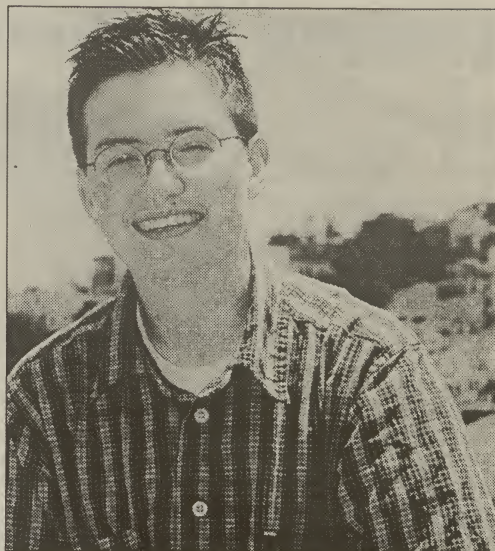
Adrienne Rich

◀ page 46

Twenty-One love poems. Knowing that she, too, is writing about love between two women makes me feel even more connected to the words and the feelings that they provoke in me. Her strength and determination to express that love in poetry is admirable.

I will hear Adrienne Rich read her poetry someday, but until then I can continue to imagine her voice reading the words to me, speaking to and expressing my own thoughts and feelings. ▼

Kate Steinle moved to San Francisco in January 1999. She is a graduate of Wesleyan University in Connecticut.



Sierra G. Spingarn: "Activism can be a driving and influential force in any community, at any time, even in the face of great adversity."

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(Previously, this pageant was titled "Miss Gay Universe")

A friend of charred feathers

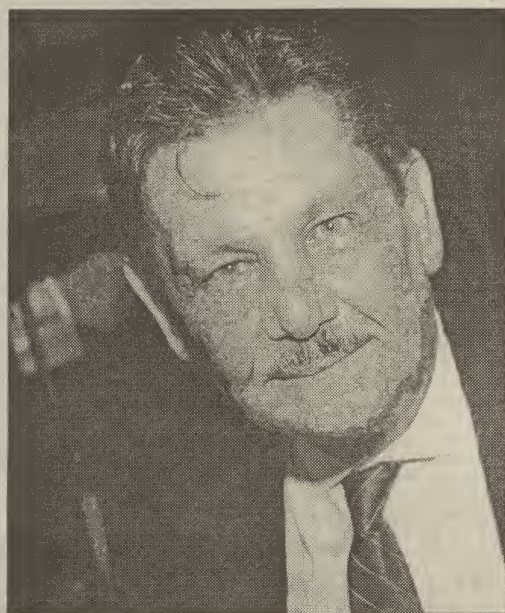
by Rick Booth

Rick Salinas instantly popped into my mind when asked who I would consider a role model in our community. He's a big soft spoken "Teddy Bear" kind of guy who instantly puts you at ease when you meet him. He always has a funny joke to tell you, which sets a jovial mood for dialogue. Then, he will communicate gently and with clarity what is on his mind and that's usually activities regarding the AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF).

Rick is currently the president of this grassroots, volunteer organization. He's not new at this position, having served three other one-year terms as president, then semi-retiring for two years before coming back again to lead the organization. Prior to that, he served on the AEF board for eight years, and was a volunteer for three years in the mid-1980s. This is a man who really is dedicated to the purpose of helping others in a selfless, but enjoyable manner.

Let me give you a bit of background about my connection with this remarkable person:

I first met Rick shortly after moving to San Francisco from New York City in 1971. I had bought a pair of Victorian flats on Russian Hill with a lover. Major remodeling was called for and in the



Rick Gerhardt

Rick Salinas: "Under his leadership, the AEF continues to thrive and be a vital part of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) community."

next year and a half, the kitchens and bathrooms were often not operable, necessitating a place to get a hot meal in the 'hood.

Rick and his mate, Alex, had the perfect answer to our needs. They ran a wonderful restaurant called the Butcher Shop on Polk Street a few doors north of the Alhambra Theatre. The food was great and inexpensive, and their friendly hospitality made you feel like you were dining at a friend's house. They always hired bright, friendly (and I might add handsome) waiters who became friends through the years.

I became even closer with Rick and Alex in 1977 after my lover departed and it was a dark period of adjusting to the single life, but the transition was made easier by Rick and Alex's friendship and encouragement.

I felt saddened when they closed the restaurant in the early 1980s. However, they re-emerged shortly after Walter Mellon and I founded the San Francisco AIDS Fund (later renamed the AIDS Emergency Fund). Our first board meetings were around the kitchen table above Richard Gervais's shop on California Street. The circle of friends wanting to help with a good cause kept expanding. George Burgess became a good friend and brought his organizational skills as a bank executive to AEF. Hank Cook, who was a government administrator, brought his talents.

Darrell Yee, an architect and long-time friend joined, as well as Margo Hagaman, an attorney who helped us obtain our 501(c)(3) status and served as legal counsel.

Our first fundraisers were held at the Eagle patio with Alan Selby organizing leather auctions in conjunction with Sunday beer busts. It was about this time in 1993 that Rick and Alex started volunteering, doing whatever they could to help out. They became fixtures and brought their many friends to help out. Rick finally became a board member after three years of volunteering.

The organization kept growing year after year as the AIDS epidemic grew. Sadly, AIDS began to take its toll on the members of AEF. George Burgess, Hank Cook, and Darrell Yee, who had all served as president, succumbed to the disease as well as many other volunteers and members.

During that period, Rick Salinas took a more active role, literally growing into a leader. He truly filled a void left by the demise of those who led before him. Under his leadership, the AEF continues to thrive and be a vital part of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) community.

Rick has accomplished this beautifully, but it hasn't always been easy. He has had many personal hardships in business, relationships, and his health, but he rarely complains and has a genuine regard for his many friends.

I commented to him recently that his coming back again to head AEF was like the Phoenix bird rising from the ashes. His jovial reply, "Yes, but a little charred around the edges and the feathers are dragging!"

He is definitely a role model for all of us. ▼

Rick Booth has been an interior decorator in San Francisco for 28 years. He co-founded the AIDS Emergency Fund in 1982, and while now retired from the agency, he continues to support it.



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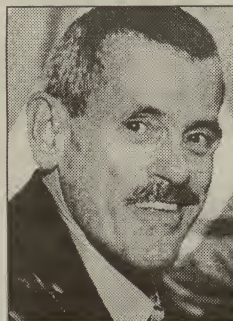
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For Pat Parker and radical dykes everywhere

by Merle Woo

I know this didn't happen just this year, but the other day, I found out that *Dykes on Bikes*, the traditional leaders of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Parade had been changed to *The Women's Motorcycle Contingent*. I wonder how much more the queer movement is going to allow itself to be co-opted into capitalist America and its family values. We come out on Gay Pride Day to express our collective identity. The *Parade*, which used to be a *March*, is inherently political. The last that any of us needs are euphemisms to make our queer selves respectable and acceptable to the status quo. Well, we aren't part of it – and we don't want to be. Dykes and Queens promote a healthy dis-ease in mainstream society.

The Pride Marches began in the early 1970s to commemorate the June 1969 Stonewall Rebellion, which marked the beginning of the modern lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender movement. It was then that black and Puerto Rican drag queens, dykes, queer street kids, and transvestites rioted for three days and nights against police harassment and brutality in New York City. Rather than celebrating these radical roots, our march has become a for-profit venture run by "producers" who

push to market our event to the public and de-politicize and erase the reality of queer oppression, which is as strong as ever.

Who profits from revising history? Today postmodern feminists and petite bourgeois academics are saying that Audre Lorde was a cultural feminist.

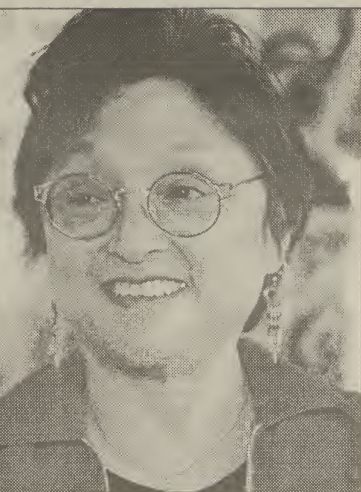
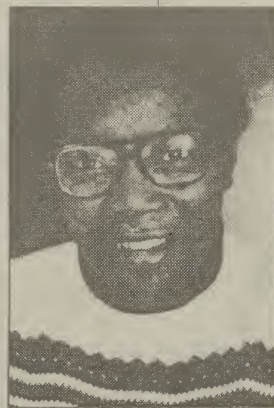
You remember – that kind of feminism which used to be linked up with radical feminism where patriarchy or men are the enemy and the solution to women's oppression is overturning patriarchal culture and building a woman-identified women's culture. Anyone who has read Audre Lorde knows that her politics aimed to create much more than woman's culture. She was not separatist, but inclusive and radical. I called Audre just before her Boston "I Am Your Sister" conference in the fall of 1991. I wanted to submit a proposal for a radical workshop, but wanted to make sure to truly represent her. "Are you a socialist?" And she said with a sly laugh, "That's what I've always said, and I don't fool with terms like those."

I'm thinking now, what will they do to Pat Parker? She was without a doubt a revolutionary feminist. Will postmodern feminists and liberals turn her into a single-issue lesbian separatist because she was so pro-woman and pro-lesbian? Will they censor out her blackness, which includes

women, men, and children? Or her working class attitudes? Will they whitewash her redness, her radicalism? Liberals want to single-issue

these dykes up. Because capitalism isn't threatened by single-issue reformist leaders. Audre Lorde is made palatable by revising her history and making her into a cultural feminist. She and Pat Parker become downright dangerous when we read their works and we see their multi-faceted, multi-issue vision. Because of who they are, they address race, sex, sexuality, and class oppression. And the logic of multi-issueism leads inexorably to anti-capitalism. All the poison is coming from the same bottle.

Who would have the clearest vision of our common enemy? Why those who happened to embody all those oppressions at once and then embrace them. Parker was a working-class lesbian of



Pat Parker (left) and Merle Woo: "The last that any of us needs are euphemisms to make our queer selves respectable and acceptable to the status quo."

color, a blatant black dyke. There was not one aspect of her life where

she was slightly privileged with the possibility of being bought off. She wasn't born rich, or white, or male, or heterosexual. No way was she going to pass as any of the above either. She wore her differences with pride and became a role model. Not many of us come to feeling pride in the ways we are oppressed or ridiculed. She and Audre showed how we could stop being victims and become protagonists/leaders in the movements

for liberation. We, too, could stand up and be a fist in the face of ugly conformity to traditional values.

Because Pat Parker was a black dyke revolutionary activist – activist is the determining characteristic here – she had that extra fire, that dangerous edge to her poetry. You could hear it in her words, see it in her strong face. Being blatant. Asking the questions others are afraid to ask because if they ask, they question, and that's the threshold to radicalism. What really happened at *Jonestown*, on November 18, 1978? Where 900 people, mostly black, died under

page 68 ►

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Panretin® gel is generally applied two times each day. Its use should be evaluated by your doctor in relation to other treatments you may be taking. Panretin® gel can be used whether or not you've tried any other anti-KS treatments, but should not be used when systemic anti-KS therapy is required.

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FOR TOPICAL USE ONLY

BRIEF SUMMARY

The following is a brief summary. Before prescribing, please consult full prescribing information.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Panretin[®] gel is indicated for topical treatment of cutaneous lesions in patients with AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma. Panretin[®] gel is not indicated when systemic anti-KS therapy is required (e.g., more than 10 new KS lesions in the prior month, symptomatic lymphedema, symptomatic pulmonary KS, or symptomatic visceral involvement). There is no experience to date using Panretin[®] gel with systemic anti-KS treatment.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Panretin[®] gel is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to retinoids or to any of the ingredients of the product.

WARNINGS

Pregnancy: Panretin[®] gel could cause fetal harm if significant absorption were to occur in a pregnant woman. 9-*cis*-Retinoic acid has been shown to be teratogenic in rabbits and mice. An increased incidence of fused sternebrae and limb and craniofacial defects occurred in rabbits given oral doses of 0.5 mg/kg/day (about five times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m² basis, assuming complete systemic absorption of 9-*cis*-retinoic acid, when Panretin[®] gel is administered as a 60 g tube over 1 month in a 60 kg human) during the period of organogenesis. Limb and craniofacial defects also occurred in mice given a single oral dose of 50 mg/kg on day eleven of gestation (about 127 times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m² basis). Oral 9-*cis*-retinoic acid was also embryocidal, as indicated by early resorptions and post-implantation loss when it was given during the period of organogenesis to rabbits at doses of 1.5 mg/kg/day (about 15 times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m² basis) and to rats at doses of 5 mg/kg/day (about 25 times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m² basis). Animal reproduction studies with topical 9-*cis*-retinoic acid have not been conducted. It is not known whether topical Panretin[®] gel can modulate endogenous 9-*cis*-retinoic acid levels in a pregnant woman nor whether systemic exposure is increased by application to ulcerated lesions or by duration of treatment. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. If Panretin[®] gel is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking it, the patient should be apprised of the potential hazard to the fetus. Women of child-bearing potential should be advised to avoid becoming pregnant.

PRECAUTIONS

Panretin[®] gel is indicated for topical treatment of Kaposi's sarcoma. Patients with cutaneous T-cell lymphoma were less tolerant of topical Panretin[®] gel; five of seven patients had 6 episodes of treatment-limiting toxicities—grade 3 dermal irritation—with Panretin[®] gel (0.01% or 0.05%).

Photosensitivity: Retinoids as a class have been associated with photosensitivity. There were no reports of photosensitivity associated with the use of Panretin[®] gel in the clinical studies. Nonetheless, because *in vitro* data indicate that 9-*cis*-retinoic acid may have a weak photosensitizing effect, patients should be advised to minimize exposure of treated areas to sunlight and sunlamps during the use of Panretin[®] gel.

Drug Interactions: Patients who are applying Panretin[®] gel should not concurrently use products that contain DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide), a common component of insect repellent products. Animal toxicology studies showed increased DEET toxicity when DEET was included as part of the formulation.

Although there was no clinical evidence in the vehicle-controlled studies of drug interactions with systemic antiretroviral agents, including protease inhibitors, macrolide antibiotics, and azole antifungals, the effect of Panretin[®] gel on the steady-state concentrations of these drugs is not known. No drug interaction data are available on concomitant administration of Panretin[®] gel and systemic anti-KS agents.

Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions: No interference with laboratory tests has been observed.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term studies in animals to assess the carcinogenic potential of 9-*cis*-retinoic acid have not been conducted.

9-*cis*-Retinoic acid was not mutagenic *in vitro* (bacterial assays, Chinese hamster ovary cell HGPRT mutation assay) and was not clastogenic *in vitro* (chromosome aberration test in human lymphocytes) nor *in vivo* (mouse micronucleus test).

Pregnancy Category D (see "Warnings" section)

Nursing Mothers: It is not known whether alitretinoin or its metabolites are excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk and because of the potential for adverse reactions from Panretin[®] gel in nursing infants, mothers should discontinue nursing prior to using the drug.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been established.

Geriatric Use: Inadequate information is available to assess safety and efficacy in patients age 65 years or older.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The safety of Panretin[®] gel has been assessed in clinical studies of 385 patients with

AIDS-related KS. Adverse events associated with the use of Panretin[®] gel in patients with AIDS-related KS occurred almost exclusively at the site of application. The dermal toxicity begins as erythema; with continued application of Panretin[®] gel, erythema may increase and edema may develop. Dermal toxicity may become treatment-limiting, with intense erythema, edema, and vesiculation. Usually, however, adverse events are mild to moderate in severity; they led to withdrawal from the study in only 7% of the patients. Severe local (application site) skin adverse events occurred in about 10% of patients in the U.S. study (versus 0% in the vehicle control). Table 1 lists the adverse events that occurred at the application site with an incidence of at least 5% during the double-blind phase in the Panretin[®] gel-treated group and in the vehicle control group in either of the two controlled studies. Adverse events were reported at other sites but generally were similar in the two groups.

TABLE 1
Adverse Events with an Incidence of at Least 5% at the Application Site in Either Controlled Study in Patients Receiving Panretin[®] Gel or Vehicle Control

Adverse Event Term	Study 1		Study 2	
	Panretin [®] Gel N=134 Pts. %	Vehicle Gel N=134 Pts. %	Panretin [®] Gel N=36 Pts. %	Vehicle Gel N=46 Pts. %
Rash ¹	77	11	25	4
Pain ²	34	7	0	4
Pruritus ³	11	4	8	4
Exfoliative dermatitis ⁴	9	2	3	0
Skin disorder ⁵	8	1	0	0
Paresthesia ⁶	3	0	22	7
Edema ⁷	8	3	3	0

Includes Investigator terms:

¹ Erythema, scaling, irritation, redness, rash, dermatitis

² Burning, pain

³ Itching, pruritus

⁴ Flaking, peeling, desquamation, exfoliation

⁵ Excoriation, cracking, scab, crusting, drainage, eschar, fissure or oozing

⁶ Stinging, tingling

⁷ Edema, swelling, inflammation

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Panretin[®] gel should initially be applied two (2) times a day to cutaneous KS lesions. The application frequency can be gradually increased to three (3) or four (4) times a day according to individual lesion tolerance. If application site toxicity occurs, the application frequency can be reduced. Should severe irritation occur, application of drug can be temporarily discontinued for a few days until the symptoms subside.

Sufficient gel should be applied to cover the lesion with a generous coating. The gel should be allowed to dry for three to five minutes before covering with clothing. Because unaffected skin may become irritated, application of the gel to normal skin surrounding the lesions should be avoided. In addition, do not apply the gel on or near mucosal surfaces of the body.

A response of KS lesions may be seen as soon as two weeks after initiation of therapy but most patients require longer application. With continued application, further benefit may be attained. Some patients have required over 14 weeks to respond. In clinical trials, Panretin[®] gel was applied for up to 96 weeks. Panretin[®] gel should be continued as long as the patient is deriving benefit.

Occlusive dressings should not be used with Panretin[®] gel.

OVERDOSAGE

There has been no experience with acute overdose of Panretin[®] gel in humans. Systemic toxicity following acute overdose with topical application of Panretin[®] gel is unlikely because of limited systemic plasma levels observed with normal therapeutic doses. There is no specific antidote for overdose.

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10275 Science Center Drive
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Lesbian in fruit country

by Hope J. Greene

I always knew I was a lesbian from the age of four. I knew I was "different," and did not fit in with what was expected of me. My father gave me a doll once for Christmas but it didn't interest me and I never played with it. In all the years of my childhood I don't remember any person mentioning the words "lesbian," "queer," or anything like that.

It wasn't until I was about 10 years old that I became aware of a real lesbian living in this little town where I lived in Oregon called Milton-Freewater. She dressed and looked like a young man. Very short, mannish haircut. Very shy and she worked in one of the fruit warehouses there in Milton. I heard whispers about her from the adults in my home. It seems the men in the warehouse talked of ambushing her in the warehouse for the purpose of taking down her pants to see what her sex looked like. I don't know if this really did occur, but the

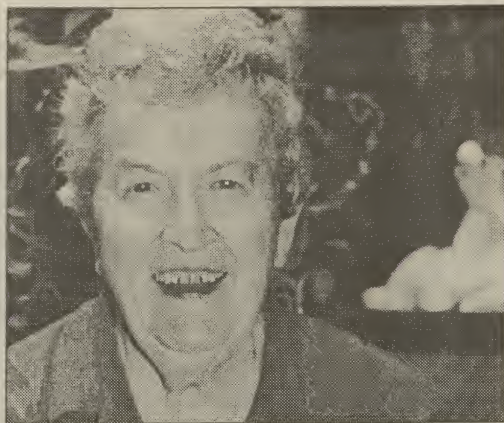
next thing I heard was that she ran off with a woman who lived up the river and they both left town. This was approximately 1929. The woman with whom she ran off with was married and had, I believe, six children. It caused quite a scandal in the town and I don't know the ending of that story. Other than this lesbian, I did not see or know of any other lesbians or gay people. These were small towns in Oregon in the fruit country. I never heard the subject discussed or saw anything written about lesbians and gay people.

It wasn't until I was 23 years of age that somehow I found out about *The Well of Loneliness*, a book written by Radclyffe Hall. I read this book and was profoundly shocked. I had never had any experiences on this subject. But by this time I had had an affair with a woman. We thought we were the only ones in the world like that. But we knew we passionately loved each other. I was a student at the University of Washington and studying the art of violin playing. My lover left Seattle to re-

turn to Berkeley where her family lived. I was devastated at her leaving me. I believe she was feeling guilty about our relationship and thought it was "bad or shameful," or something like that.

After that I had a number of brief affairs with men. However, it was never satisfactory to me. I continued to be strongly attracted to women. It wasn't until two or three years later that I was introduced to the gay population in Seattle. What a revelation. The woman who was attracted to me took me to all the underground bars, dance places, and gay parties. A vast population of men and women with a culture all their own living side by side with "straight" people, who of course didn't have a clue. I was kind of exciting to be living in this underworld.

At that time I was playing in the Seattle Symphony Orchestra. There was one woman, a cellist, who I recognized to be a lesbian, although we never became close. I didn't have any lesbian teachers to influence me. Of course, some



John Philomeno/Celand

Hope Greene: "I never heard the subject discussed or saw anything written about lesbians and gay people."

of them might have been, but kept it secret. I, at the age of 10, was madly in love with my violin teacher, but after our family moved on to Kennewick, Washington, I didn't see her again. ▼

Hope Greene, 79, was a musician who played with the

Seattle Symphony, Oakland Symphony, Berkeley Symphony, and the Women's Philharmonic Orchestra. For much of her life she worked for a musicians' labor union. She was lucky enough to meet her partner through GLOE, Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, and is a very happy woman.

Tenderloin

◀ page 52

Vietnam and the youth counter-culture and the civil rights movement radically transformed U.S. society, before the Stonewall riots rocked New York, queer people launched the Citizen's Alert cop-watch group, held defiant and celebratory drag balls at California Hall, picketed discriminatory neighborhood businesses, marched down Market Street in protest, organized economic revitalization programs, and campaigned for social justice. The Tenderloin produced Vanguard, the first gay/transgender youth group in the country, as well as the Council on Religion and the Homosexual, the first progressive Christian coalition to address homophobia as a political and cultural problem. In a very real sense, the Tenderloin is where pride in gay culture was born in San Francisco, more than 30 years ago.

Urban redevelopment, particularly the construction of underground BART/Muni lines that disrupted the Market Street economy and made life a lot harder and a lot shabbier in the Tenderloin during the 1970s. By then, gay life had started shifting farther away from downtown towards the Castro and Mission, leaving behind many of the community's most vulnerable members.

As I look out at the Tenderloin today, I don't have to look too hard to see a lot that most LGBT people would rather forget. Poverty. Crime. Decay. Neglect. Despair. It's indeed a privilege to be able to forget such things, and hardly necessary to point out that many people don't share that privilege. But as a queer historian who works on the edge of this neighborhood, I see a lot in the Tenderloin that is worth remembering, worth recovering, worth fighting for. There's a proud heritage of queer visibility, progressive politics, and sensitive, class-conscious neighborhood organizing there waiting to be reclaimed. ▼

Susan Stryker is exec. director of the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California and co-author, with Jim Van Buskirk, of *Gay by the Bay*.

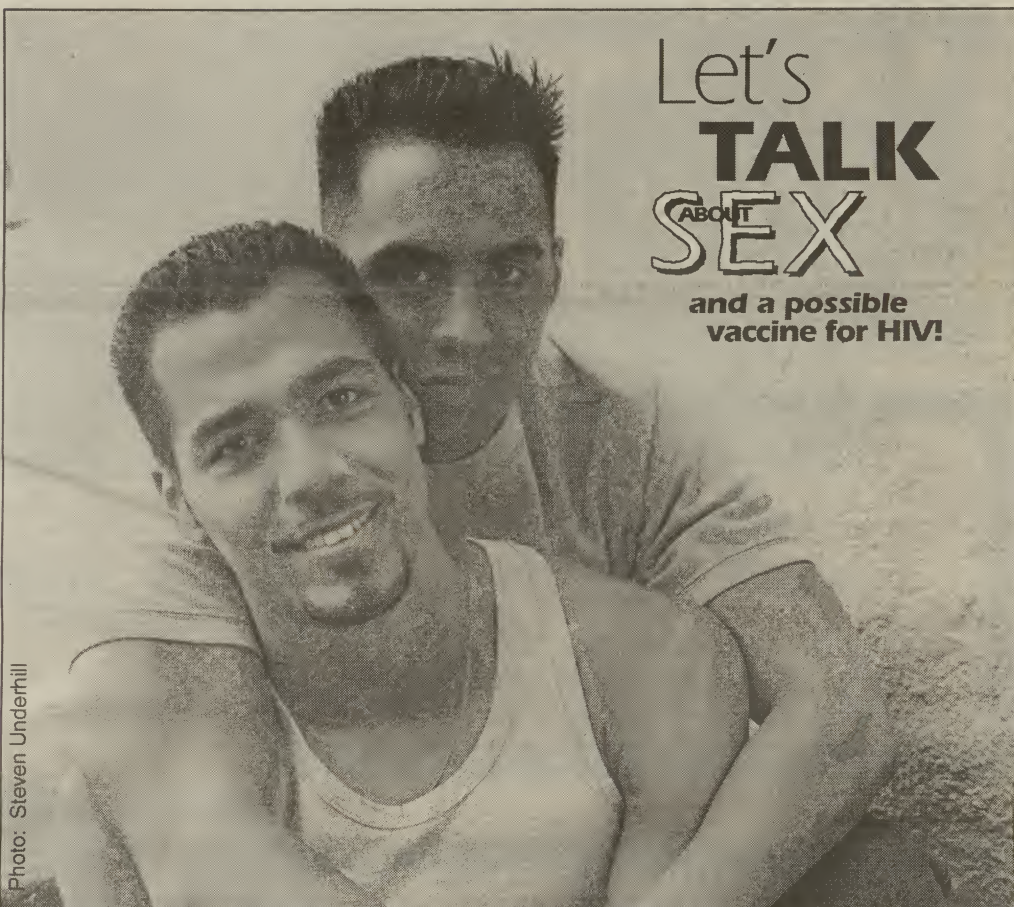


Photo: Steven Underhill

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Pat Parker

◀ page 64

the influence of a white preacher, Jim Jones? Black people do not commit suicide. They were murdered by 400 years of racism, poverty, oppression, brutality.

Her vision at the bottom was the most clear and uncompromising. Her poetry was deliberately raw, succinct, passionate (for revolution is intense compassion), and inspiringly relevant because she remained an activist. She refused to be co-opted, refused to give the nod to respectability and acceptability, to become petite bourgeois. She was the director of the Oakland Feminist Women's Health Center. She and her soul brother, Blackberri, tried to book a tour to-

inist because I want me to be free. And it is critically important to me that ... your commitment to revolution is based on the fact that you want revolution for yourself. ... In order for revolution to be possible, and revolution is possible, it must be led by the poor and working class people of this country.

Not blacks alone, nor Latinos/as, nor Native Americans, Asians, women, queers - but together.

Parker's work explores in ever new ways the meaning of being proudly different:

... she has been known/ ... /to speak in a loud voice,/to pick her nose,/stumble on a sidewalk,/scream obscenities at men,/tote garbage/play basket ball/ ... my lady is definitely no

She refused to be co-opted, refused to give the nod to respectability and acceptability, to become petite bourgeois.

gether but separatists and homophobes prevented its success.

Pat belonged to this underground black women's organization called the "Eleventh Hour Battalion." I loved that! The world is in ruins, rotten with decaying capitalism; we are at the very brink. Seize the hour!

Both Audre Lorde and Pat Parker wrote of the pervasive violence in their lives as blacks, as women, as dykes. Parker wrote of the urgent necessity for radical change. In "Revolution: It's Not Neat or Pretty or Quick" she says,

Yet to support national liberation struggles alone is not enough. We must actively fight within the confines of this country to bring it down. ... I am a revolutionary fem-

lady/which is fine with me,/cause I ain't no gentleman.

To Parker, selling out your own, is an act of perversion. And selling out your own to Amerikkka won't save you:

They will not come/a mob rolling/ through the streets, but quickly and quietly/move into our homes/and remove the evil,/ the queerness,/the faggotry, the perverseness/ from their midst. They will not come/clothed in brown,/ and swastikas, or/bearing chest heavy/with/ gleaming crosses./The time and need/for ruses are over./They will come in business suits. ... /to your front rooms/and in your closets/ They will come for the pervers./And where will you be when they come.

Change March to Parade; Dykes on Bikes to The Women's Motorcycle Contingent. Audre Lorde from socialist and feminist to Cultural feminist. A familiar ploy of the powers that be? Change Bombing of Yugoslavia to Building a New World Order.

Do we still feel that tingle of the slightest embarrassment when we're in the same room with a blatantly transgendered or homosexual individual? Where no euphemism will hide the truth of that person? If we do, this simply means that we are still bound to patriarchal capitalist values. Tied to the need to keep the monogamous nuclear family safe, male-

dominance and heterosexuality safe. Dykes say don't confuse me with any moral majority straight woman. I don't want that privilege or those chains, thank you. Read Parker's *For The Straight Folks/Who don't Mind Gays/But Wish They weren't so BLATANT* - get a laugh and a revelation.

Pat Parker was exploring something very new in the early 1970s. And since we haven't had the revolution yet, I bet she has something for young queer and questioning youth today. We're still being rejected by parents ("Lord, what kind of child is this?"), treated like freaks. We don't have money or work with fair pay and healthy working conditions. We want to build different relationships than our parents had, new concepts of family because we know in our heart of hearts that that has to happen for us to survive. But we are scared. Can we be truly equals in a partnership? Raise children to be non-competitive? Create a caring community ... world?

Maybe non-monogamy is a symbol of real freedom and independence, but as Pat Parker says, it sure is a pain in the butt when you're in love.

In 1977 I invited Pat to come talk to my class on Third World Women Writers. She was a key voice for feminism, and I knew it. Her poems stunned the young students. Her love poems were not all gushy and feminine mystique:

Let me come to you naked/come without my masks/come dark/and lay beside you./Let me come to you old/come as a dying snail/ come weak/and lay beside you ... even more/Let me come to you strong/come sure and free/come powerful/and lay with you.

Ten years ago, on June 17, 1989, Pat Parker died of breast cancer. I was lucky. I'm a breast cancer survivor since 1990, and I'm still living and have found with other working class people of color, Jews, women, and queers, a means to revolution to consciously create international socialism, matriarchal collectivity and sexualities as diverse as the colors of humanity. ▼

Merle Woo is a socialist feminist educator and writer and a leader in Radical Women and the Freedom Socialist Party. In the 1980s, she fought and won two multi-discrimination and free speech battles against the University of California, Berkeley. In 1994, she received the Social Justice Award from the Northern California Gay and Lesbian Historical Society.

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Precautions and Warnings from the OXANDRIN[®] (oxandrolone, USP) CIII Package Insert: In patients receiving androgenic anabolic steroid therapy, 1) peliosis hepatis, a condition in which the liver and sometimes splenic tissue is replaced with blood-filled cysts, has been reported; 2) liver cell tumors are also reported; 3) blood lipid changes that are known to be associated with increased risk of atherosclerosis are seen. See **Warnings** and **Precautions** sections of complete prescribing information.

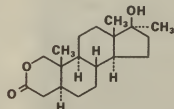
Contraindications: 1) known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast; 2) carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption); 3) pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose; 4) nephrosis, the nephrotic phase of nephritis; 5) hypercalcemia.

References: 1. Strawford A, Barbieri T, Van Loan M, et al. The effects of oxandrolone plus resistance exercise on nitrogen balance, body composition and strength in men with AIDS wasting syndrome. Presented at: 12th World AIDS Conference; June 28-July 3, 1998; Geneva, Switzerland. Abstract. 2. Fisher A, Abbaticola M, the Oxandrolone Study Group. The effects of oxandrolone on body weight and composition in patients with HIV-associated weight loss. Presented at: 5th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections; February 1-5, 1998; Chicago, Ill. Abstract. 3. Berger JR, Pall L, Hall CD, et al. Oxandrolone in AIDS-wasting myopathy. *AIDS*. 1996;10:1657-1662.

BTG PHARMACEUTICALS
OXANDRIN®
 (oxandrolone tablets, USP)

DESCRIPTION

Oxandrin® oral tablets contain 2.5 mg of the anabolic steroid oxandrolone. Oxandrolone is 17 β -hydroxy-17 α -methyl-2-oxa-5 α -androstan-3-one with the following structural formula:



Inactive ingredients include cornstarch, lactose, magnesium stearate, and hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Anabolic steroids are synthetic derivatives of testosterone. Certain clinical effects and adverse reactions demonstrate the androgenic properties of this class of drugs. Complete dissociation of anabolic and androgenic effects has not been achieved. The actions of anabolic steroids are therefore similar to those of male sex hormones with the possibility of causing serious disturbances of growth and sexual development if given to young children. Anabolic steroids suppress the gonadotropic functions of the pituitary and may exert a direct effect upon the testes.

During exogenous administration of anabolic androgens, endogenous testosterone release is inhibited through inhibition of pituitary luteinizing hormone (LH). At large doses, spermatogenesis may be suppressed through feedback inhibition of pituitary follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH).

Anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins and decrease high-density lipoproteins. These levels revert to normal on discontinuation of treatment.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Oxandrin is indicated as adjunctive therapy to promote weight gain after weight loss following extensive surgery, chronic infections, or severe trauma, and in some patients who without definite pathophysiologic reasons fail to gain or to maintain normal weight, to offset the protein catabolism associated with prolonged administration of corticosteroids, and for the relief of the bone pain frequently accompanying osteoporosis (See **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

Oxandrolone is classified as a controlled substance under the Anabolic Steroids Control Act of 1990 and has been assigned to Schedule III (non-narcotic).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

1. Known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast.
2. Carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption).
3. Pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose.
4. Nephrosis, the nephrotic phase of nephritis.
5. Hypercalcemia.

WARNINGS

PELIOSIS HEPATIS, A CONDITION IN WHICH LIVER AND SOMETIMES SPLENIC TISSUE IS REPLACED WITH BLOOD-FILLED CYSTS, HAS BEEN REPORTED IN PATIENTS RECEIVING ANDROGENIC ANABOLIC STEROID THERAPY. THESE CYSTS ARE SOMETIMES PRESENT WITH MINIMAL HEPATIC DYSFUNCTION, BUT AT OTHER TIMES THEY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH LIVER FAILURE. THEY ARE OFTEN NOT RECOGNIZED UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING LIVER FAILURE OR INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG USUALLY RESULTS IN COMPLETE DISAPPEARANCE OF LESIONS.

LIVER CELL TUMORS ARE ALSO REPORTED. MOST OFTEN THESE TUMORS ARE BENIGN AND ANDROGEN-DEPENDENT, BUT FATAL MALIGNANT TUMORS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG OFTEN RESULTS IN REGRESSION OR CESSATION OF PROGRESSION OF THE TUMOR. HOWEVER, HEPATIC TUMORS ASSOCIATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS ARE MUCH MORE VASCULAR THAN OTHER HEPATIC TUMORS AND MAY BE SILENT UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. BLOOD LIPID CHANGES THAT ARE KNOWN TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS ARE SEEN IN PATIENTS TREATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS. THESE CHANGES INCLUDE DECREASED HIGH-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS AND SOMETIMES INCREASED LOW-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS. THE CHANGES MAY BE VERY MARKED AND COULD HAVE A SERIOUS IMPACT ON THE RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS AND CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE.

Cholestatic hepatitis and jaundice may occur with 17 α -alkylated androgens at a relatively low dose. If cholestatic hepatitis with jaundice appears or if liver function tests become abnormal, oxandrolone should be discontinued and the etiology should be determined. Drug-induced jaundice is reversible when the medication is discontinued.

In patients with breast cancer, anabolic steroid therapy may cause hypercalcemia by stimulating osteolysis. Oxandrolone therapy should be discontinued if hypercalcemia occurs.

Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with pre-existing cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. Concomitant administration of adrenal cortical steroid or ACTH may increase the edema.

In children, androgen therapy may accelerate bone maturation without producing compensatory gain in linear growth. This adverse effect results in compromised adult height. The younger the child, the greater the risk of compromising final mature height. The effect on bone maturation should be monitored by assessing bone age of the left wrist and hand every 6 months (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**).

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

ANABOLIC STEROIDS HAVE NOT BEEN SHOWN TO ENHANCE ATHLETIC ABILITY.

PRECAUTIONS**General:**

Women should be observed for signs of virilization (deepening of the voice, hirsutism, acne, clitoromegaly). Discontinuation of drug therapy at the time of evidence of mild virilism is necessary to prevent irreversible virilization. Some virilizing changes in women are irreversible even after prompt discontinuance of therapy and are not prevented by concomitant use of estrogens. Menstrual irregularities may also occur.

Anabolic steroids may cause suppression of clotting factors II, V, VII, and X, and an increase in prothrombin time.

Information for patients:

The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following side effects of androgens:

Males: Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis, appearance or aggravation of acne.

Females: Hoarseness, acne, changes in menstrual periods, or more facial hair.

All patients: Nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.

Laboratory tests:

Women with disseminated breast carcinoma should have frequent determination of urine and serum calcium levels during the course of therapy (See **WARNINGS**).

Because of the hepatotoxicity associated with the use of 17 α -alkylated androgens, liver function tests should be obtained periodically.

Periodic (every 6 months) x-ray examinations of bone age should be made during treatment of children to determine the rate of bone maturation and the effects of androgen therapy on the epiphyseal centers.

Serum lipids and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol determinations should be done periodically as androgenic anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins. Serum cholesterol levels may increase during therapy. Therefore, caution is required when administering these agents to patients with a history of myocardial infarction or coronary artery disease. Serial determinations of serum cholesterol should be made and therapy adjusted accordingly.

Hemoglobin and hematocrit should be checked periodically for polycythemia in patients who are receiving high doses of anabolic steroids.

Drug interactions**Anticoagulants:**

Anabolic steroids may increase sensitivity to oral anticoagulants. Dosage of the anticoagulant may have to be decreased in order to maintain desired prothrombin time. Patients receiving oral anticoagulant therapy require close monitoring, especially when anabolic steroids are started or stopped.

Oral hypoglycemic agents:

Oxandrolone may inhibit the metabolism of oral hypoglycemic agents.

Adrenal steroids or ACTH:

In patients with edema, concomitant administration with adrenal cortical steroids or ACTH may increase the edema.

Drug/Laboratory test interactions:

Anabolic steroids may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T_4 serum levels and increased resin uptake of T_3 and T_4 . Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged. In addition, a decrease in PBI and radioactive iodine uptake may occur.

Carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, impairment of fertility**Animal data:**

Oxandrolone has not been tested in laboratory animals for carcinogenic or mutagenic effects. In 2-year chronic oral rat studies, a dose-related reduction of spermatogenesis and decreased organ weights (testes, prostate, seminal vesicles, ovaries, uterus, adrenals, and pituitary) were shown.

Human data:

Liver cell tumors have been reported in patients receiving long-term therapy with androgenic anabolic steroids in high doses (See **WARNINGS**). Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

Pregnancy:

Teratogenic effects—Pregnancy Category X (See **CONTRAINDICATIONS**).

Nursing mothers:

It is not known whether anabolic steroids are excreted in human milk. Because of the potential of serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from oxandrolone, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

Pediatric use:

Anabolic agents may accelerate epiphyseal maturation more rapidly than linear growth in children and the effect may continue for 6 months after the drug has been stopped. Therefore, therapy should be monitored by x-ray studies at 6-month intervals in order to avoid the risk of compromising adult height. Androgenic anabolic steroid therapy should be used very cautiously in children and only by specialists who are aware of the effects on bone maturation (See **WARNINGS**).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions have been associated with use of anabolic steroids:

Hepatic: Cholestatic jaundice with, rarely, hepatic necrosis and death. Hepatocellular neoplasms and peliosis hepatis with long-term therapy (See **WARNINGS**). Reversible changes in liver function tests also occur including increased bromsulphophthalein (BSP) retention, and increases in serum bilirubin, aspartate aminotransferase (AST, SGOT) and alkaline phosphatase.

In males:

Prepubertal: Phallic enlargement and increased frequency or persistence of erections.

Postpubertal: Inhibition of testicular function, testicular atrophy and oligospermia, impotence, chronic priapism, epididymitis, and bladder irritability.

In females:

Clitoral enlargement, menstrual irregularities.

CNS: Habituation, excitation, insomnia, depression, and changes in libido.

Hematologic: Bleeding in patients on concomitant anticoagulant therapy.

Breast: Gynecomastia.

Larynx: Deepening of the voice in females.

Hair: Hirsutism and male pattern baldness in females.

Skin: Acne (especially in females and prepubertal males).

Skeletal: Premature closure of epiphyses in children (See **PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric use**).

Fluid and electrolytes: Edema, retention of serum electrolytes (sodium chloride, potassium, phosphate, calcium).

Metabolic/Endocrine: Decreased glucose tolerance (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**), increased creatinine excretion, increased serum levels of creatinine phosphokinase (CPK). Masculinization of the fetus. Inhibition of gonadotropin secretion.

OVERDOSAGE

No symptoms or signs associated with overdosage have been reported. It is possible that sodium and water retention may occur.

The oral LD₅₀ of oxandrolone in mice and dogs is greater than 5,000 mg/kg. No specific antidote is known, but gastric lavage may be used.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Therapy with anabolic steroids is adjunctive to and not a replacement for conventional therapy. The duration of therapy with Oxandrin (oxandrolone) will depend on the response of the patient and the possible appearance of adverse reactions. Therapy should be intermittent.

Adults: The usual adult dosage of Oxandrin is one 2.5-mg tablet 2 to 4 times daily. However, the response of individuals to anabolic steroids varies, and a daily dosage of as little as 2.5 mg or as much as 20 mg may be required to achieve the desired response. A course of therapy of 2 to 4 weeks is usually adequate. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

Children: For children the total daily dosage of Oxandrin is ≤ 0.1 mg per kilogram body weight or ≤ 0.045 mg per pound of body weight. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

HOW SUPPLIED

Oxandrin 2.5-mg tablets are oval, white, and scored with BTG on one side and "11" on each side of the scoreline on the other side; bottles of 100 (NDC 54396-111-11).

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Honor the outlaws

by Ian Fried

When Kate Bornstein first spoke to me, it was from the pages of her book. I was 18, freshly out as transgendered, and desperately in need of someone whose life I could relate to. I had read of women trapped in men's bodies and men who dressed in women's clothes for the thrill of it. Their stories struck a chord, but didn't quite hit home. Then, I found Kate's book at my favorite independent bookstore.

Gender Outlaw: On Men, Women, and the Rest of Us.

Hmmm. Even her style was like mine: writing in little bits, thinking on different planes, connecting seemingly disparate things, operating outside the lines.

I next heard from Kate, in digital form, in an online open letter calling for trans people to write about how they see themselves as part of her new book. Then a college senior and aspiring trans writer, I enthusiastically sent off my one-line self-description, "A transgendered tomgirl looking to make hir (it's time we had pronouns of our own) way into the world." I was stunned some months later to get a sweet note from Kate making sure it was okay to publish it. OK? It was fabulous beyond words.

When *My Gender Workbook* came out a year later, I arranged an interview through Kate's publisher. I had interviewed lots of people: politicians, celebrities, mothers who had just lost their

children, but never had so many butterflies found their way into my stomach. It turned out she was as shocked to be interviewed by a transkid as I was to be talking to my hero. Sitting on her bed at the Disneyland Hotel, we talked about her journey from man to woman to neither, about empowering trans youth, and our place in the queer community. That hour and a half flew by, but that magical night is burned into my memory.

More recently, Kate has been touching my life from a distance. As I grapple with the fact that I am not really a man or a woman, her encouraging voice is in my head. I hear the echo of the words from that, now dog-eared, copy of

Gender Outlaw.

"I know I'm not a man — about that much I'm very clear, and I've come to the conclusion that I'm probably not a woman either, at least not according to a lot of people's rules on this sort of thing."

Yeah.

Thanks, Kate. ▼

Ian Fried was born in Akron, Ohio, grew up in Los Angeles (North Hollywood High School-1992) and graduated in 1996 from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He's currently a San Francisco-based writer and a collaborator in *Changeling*, a zine by and for transgender youth.

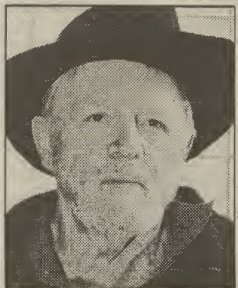


Dona Ann McAdam

Kate Bornstein: "As I grapple with the fact that I am not really a man or a woman, her encouraging voice is in my head."

Gods and ordinary people

by Jordan Lee



Jordan Lee

I'm 73 years old. For me, the gay movement and the parade are miracles. Such things were inconceivable in the 1950s. Then, we skulked around in dark corners. Our primary aim was to survive; there was little hope of anything else. Those few who joined such organizations as the Mattachine Society or the Daughters of Bilitis did so because something had to be done.

I did so largely because of the Holocaust. I shall never forget

that first moment of shock and horror when we first learned the full details of what had been done in the death camps. The abyss was revealed. I saw human nature at its worst. There was no choice but to act, to comprehend and find a solution.

A number of things have helped and strengthened me during the dark moments in the gay movement. At 16, when I was living alone and working full-time, I barely comprehended its philosophy, but the thing registered. The Buddha was a genuinely good, compassionate, and serenely wise

human being. Knowing such a person had existed helped. Later, realizing the lives of such persons as George Fox, Harriet Tubman, Frederic Douglass and the tales of Hassidic teachers were also an aid.

What has been the greatest aid has been the extraordinary men and women with whom I've worked in the movement. We hear much of feuds, personality clashes, and ideological splits. But by and large, these have been the finest and truly good persons I've ever known. It has been immeasurably rewarding to have known

next page ►

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(1) AMERICAN JOURNAL OF OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY, 1996; (2) INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF FERTILITY, 1996; (3) CALIFORNIA LAVENDER SMOKEFREE PROJECT, CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION.

CALIFORNIA LAVENDER



SMOKEFREE PROJECT

This project made possible by Proposition 55 funds under grant #04-00000, with the California Department of Social Services.



Erik Berg (top) with Benjie Nycum: "I can always confide in him, and it is fail-safe that he will take the opposite point of view from me in our conversations, just to make things that much more interesting."

Heroic by design

by Erik Berg

Lying in my bed, holding my worn teddy close, my thoughts dance along the vague and distant memories that cuddle in my mind. Suddenly, a familiar face appears. Lo! it is Benny Nycum. I guess one could say I named him; indeed, I'm the only one who calls him Benny. He just reminds me of the character from *Benny and June*. It's a good thing, I suppose. I remember the first time I saw him, he was dancing and looked over at me and smiled. It was the warmest smile that ever was sent my way. And since then, there have been many, many more.

Benny is someone I can trust. I can always confide in him, and it is fail-safe that he will take the opposite point of view from me in our conversations, just to make things that much more interesting. His objective standpoint on issues really helps me to see things in a different light. He opens my eyes to things I've never thought

of or tried before. He guides me and holds my hand, and leads me to point my ambitions in the right direction.

Benny is someone I look up to. He has talent and uses it to help others. He is generous and kind. His card reads, "Benjie Nycum, designer." He is currently working on the new community center to be built on Market Street, San Francisco.

Benny is dependable, he can help whenever I need it. I can always ask a favor, and know that my gratitude is enough in return. Benny is someone who cares. Whenever the sky is grey, I can still smile just knowing that he is a phone call away. He takes the time to see how I am feeling, the time to listen. He cares enough to give me a ride across the Golden Gate Bridge to get my backpack I left at home. He is special.

Every day, I see a thousand new faces, all of them strangers. But sometimes a face stands out of the crowd. And on that sidewalk, you greet that familiar face, and look back on good times past.

As my thoughts drift down the foreign streets of my mind, I smile as I see Benny, and hug my teddy bear closer. ▼

Erik Berg is a junior, and the only gay activist, at St. Ignatius College Preparatory School in San Francisco.

Lyon and Martin

◀ page 44

to change if you won't."

"You have to be vigilant," Lyon said. "I wish more of them [younger LGBT people] would get active politically."

"It seems like youth today, when they decide what they want, they want it right now."

Both women pointed out that advances in the LGBT community have taken years to accomplish. And, the fight isn't over. As an example, they pointed to the recent state Assembly defeat by one vote of AB 222 by lesbian Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) that would have added sexual orientation to the non-discrimination code for public schools.

"That was a rough one," Martin said.

Each time legislation that would benefit the LGBT community is introduced in governmental bodies, more people are educated, even if the particular law is defeated, as was AB 222. "Each time you educate more people," said Martin.

Take, for instance, police brutality—something Lyon and Martin fought years ago in San Francisco. "You have to be persistent," Martin said. "Now, in the case of domestic violence [involving same-sex couples], you have a unit in the police department and a unit in the district attorney's office and education with judges. Things look better, but personnel can change."

And change they will, as long as Lyon and Martin keep up their work and others in the LGBT community join in. The proliferation of computers has made keeping connected to the community easier for many, even Lyon and Martin.

Last year, the couple got connected to the Internet when they purchased an iMac computer. "We're a little new at it," Lyon said. "Gay male friends we have keep sending us jokes that are really corny." ▼

Jordan Lee

◀ previous page

them, and I cannot thank them enough.

Since then, in every generation there have been further holocausts. Each time the abyss has been relieved. But the goodness and the dedication I've seen among us is greater than the darkness.

It's brought us this far; it will take us even further. And we will prevail. ▼

Jordan Lee worked for the San Francisco Public Library for 12 years. Now retired, he's chair of the G40+ Club, which works with senior gay, bisexual, and transgendered men. He belonged to the Mattachine Society in the 1950s.

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E-mail: mcnv@bigfoot.com
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Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco

150 Eureka Street, SF 415.863-4434
www.mccsf.org; E-mail: mcsf@aol.com
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Wednesday Evening Candlelight Prayer 7:00 PM
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Episcopal Bishop John Shelby Spong (July 18th at 7:00 PM)
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Eric Nefstead, guest preacher

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150 Eureka Street, SF In the Chapel
The Reverend Vernon Link 415.239-2500
The Reverend Mary Rose Czajka 510.261-7881
Weekly Sunday Service (Healing at all services) 2:00 PM

St. Boniface Catholic Church

133 Golden Gate Avenue, SF 415.863-7515
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English 10:30 AM
Spanish (Sunday) 3:30 PM
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152 Church Street at Market, SF 415.621-2635
www.st-francisc-lutheran.org; E-mail: sfrancissf@aol.com
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Weekly Sunday Services 11:00 AM
Pastoral Counseling: Grief & loss, spirituality & sexuality issues, and coming-out support
Lesbian Couples Group, Gay & Bi Men's Group, G/L Parenting Support, Holy Unions
"A Place for Gathering"

St. Gregory Nyssen Episcopal Church

500 DeHaro Street at Mariposa, SF 415.255-8100
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Weekly Saturday Worship 5:00 PM
Weekly Sunday Worship 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
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United Church of Christ
501 Laguna Honda Blvd at Woodside Ave, SF 415.731-9333
E-mail: stjohns@bigplanet.com
Roger Ridgway, Spiritual Leader
Weekly Sunday Worship 10:00 AM
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St. Mark's Lutheran Church

1111 O'Farrell Street, SF 415.928-7770
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Contemporary Eucharist 9:00 AM
Christian Education 10:00 AM
Choral Eucharist 11:00 AM
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Trinity United Methodist Church

2362 Bancroft Way at Dana, Berkeley 510.548-4716
www.trinityberkeley.org
The Reverend Kim Smith, Pastor
Weekly Sunday Morning Celebration of Worship 10:00 AM
Jazz Celebration with the Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry resumes Sunday, August 15th 5:00 PM
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social justice and spiritual growth, where all are welcome*

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1350 Waller Street, SF 415.621-1862
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www.webmen.com/asp.htm
The Reverend Dr. Kenneth L. Schmidt, Rector
Freedom Day Masses 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
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Bethany United Methodist Church

1268 Sanchez Street at Clipper, SF 415.647-8393
www.members.aol.com/bethanyum2/homepage.html
The Reverend Karen P. Oliveto, Pastor
Summer Worship: Sundays 10:00 AM
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Chalice Christian Church

Disciples of Christ
225 Tilton Ave, San Mateo 650-638-9643
GBatNCNC@aol.com
Steve Haley & Gerry Brague, Co-pastors
Weekly Sunday Worship (Buckham Room) 10:30 AM
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Christ Church Lutheran

1090 Quintara Street at 20th Ave, SF 415.664-0915
www.unidial.com/~christchurch
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Adult Forum 11:30 AM
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938 Valencia Street at Liberty, SF 415.826-2641
www.welcome.to/dsbcc; E-mail: Doloresstreetchurch@mailexcite.com
The Reverend Douglas M. Donley, Pastor
Weekly Bible Study 9:30 AM
Weekly Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
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First Baptist Church of Berkeley

Corner of Dana and Durant, Berkeley 510.848-5838
www.fbc-berkeley.org
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Weekly Sunday Worship 10:00 AM
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First Congregational Church of Berkeley

United Church of Christ
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www.fccb.org
The Reverend Patricia E. de Jong, Senior Minister
Sunday Worship and Church School 10:00 AM
Taizé Service, 1st Fridays 7:30 PM
FCCB is Open and Affirming. We welcome you!

First Congregational Church of San Francisco

United Church of Christ
432 Mason Street at Post, SF 415.394-7461
www.sanfranciscoucc.org; E-mail: firstccsf@aol.com
The Reverend Catherine Bohman, Pastor
Sunday Worship and Music Celebration 11:00 AM
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a consortium of churches celebrating inclusive ministries
The Reverend Roger Ridgway, Coordinator 415.731-9333
Layout: Michael Cronin, MCC/SF



Harry Hay

◀ page 43

'yes, my client is a homosexual, and yes, my client is a self-respecting decent American citizen.' And we were all in tears, because no straight person had said that to us before in our lives!" Jennings's historic case put the Mattachine Society on the map, and allowed individuals in other parts of the country to fight similar charges.

From the beginning Harry Hay was a radical. He wasn't seeking just gay rights, but a true revolution that would bring about gay liberation. The original Mattachine co-founders, most of them fellow Communist Party members, generally shared Hay's dreams. But when the masses found Mattachine, there was trouble. As Hay recalls, "Up until that point all our members had been people with solid left credentials. After Dale's trial suddenly we were inundated with people, and this was the Republican crowd, the people that just wanted to go to Sacramento and change the law just a little bit so we could all be left alone..."

At the same moment a Los Angeles newspaper columnist printed a story about Mattachine, call-

ing it "a new pressure group" and pointing to Hay's communist background. This new red-baiting press had Mattachine in an uproar. One Mattachine chapter began calling for all members to sign a loyalty oath. A Mattachine Convention was called and as the masses assembled, the message to the founders was clear - they must go. Less than three years after founding it, Hay was forced to resign from the Mattachine Society. For Hay, leaving Mattachine "broke my heart." Suddenly the dream that he struggled his entire life to realize was gone.

Shortly after leaving Mattachine, Hay was called before the House Un-American Activities Committee. Hay was sure they would question him about his homosexual organizing and he was prepared to go to jail to protect his brotherhood. But the questions focused solely on his communist past and Hay, using his skills in theater and speaking, talked around the issue until the committee finally dismissed him in frustration.

For the next 10 years Hay focused on studying and writing on homosexuality in cultures throughout the world. It was during this time that he learned to "see the shadows behind the



Harry Hay in 1935

words" that often told the true story of gay and lesbian history. Here he discovered the Native American Berdache (today called "two spirit"), a sacred role for homosexual members of the culture. Hay's groundbreaking work in this area led to extensive works years later by author Will Roscoe.

In 1963, at the age of 51, Harry Hay met John Burnside. Hay re-

calls hearing "peals of laughter across the room" and demanding of a friend, "Who is that?" Hay and Burnside became lovers and partners in a life of self-examination and social change. And while Hay is most notable for his gay activism, his partnership with Burnside, now in their 35th year together, continues to be an inspiration for the gay and lesbian com-

munity.

Hay and Burnside soon moved to New Mexico to continue their study of Native culture. There the couple worked on Native American land rights' issues, helping to organize against real estate developers who wanted to dam the Rio Grande River and cut off Native American farmers' livelihood. They worked as out gay men within the land rights movement. Their work earned them the title "the hoto junta."

It was the burgeoning Gay Liberation Movement that brought Harry and John back to Los Angeles in the late 1970s. Like in much of America it was a time of experimentation, but in this new era of gay liberation, Harry still found something lacking in the gay community. He returned to his life-long questions: Who are we, where did we come from, and why are we here?

Bucking the trend again, Harry, working with a small group in LA, called for a "spiritual conference for radical faeries." Hay wasn't quite sure who would show up, but they optimistically predicted 50-60 would come together to explore Hay's questions. By the end of the gathering's first day more than 250 men had arrived from across the country. Faeries from the first gathering recall it as an "amazing, otherworldly" event.

The faerie movement took off - gatherings began happening across the country, and today there are Radical Faerie Sanctuaries, permanent faerie homelands, scattered across the country. Euro-faeries even have their own website.

Hay's explorations of "who we are" has earned him great respect and blistering criticism. Hay is outspoken in his view that queers are "a separate people, with a very different window on the world." Because of this unique perspective, and because of the unique gifts that we bring, Hay asserts, we are crucial to the survival of the planet. "Mother Nature doesn't make mistakes - we are here for a reason. And it's up to us to come together and find out who we really are." Only then, says Hay, can we come back to the mainstream population and tell them who we are.

City College's Katz, interviewed in Slade and Walsh's documentary, remarks, "Harry has the notion that queers, by our very nature, have a unique set of qualities that set us apart from all others, and I find this notion absurd. That may have been a good organizing tool in the 1940s, but there's simply no evidence to support it."

But despite the controversy Hay continues to cause, no one, including Katz, disputes the immense contribution he has made to our movement. Groups as diverse as the Southern California Labor History Library, and Men of All Colors Together have honored Hay with Lifetime Achievement Awards. In 1995, Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan and the City Council issued him a proclamation for his lifetime achievements. More recently, the San Francisco Public Library acquired Hay's extensive archives.

At age 87, Hay is hardly going quietly into the sunset. He continues to agitate, investigate, and, when necessary, stir up trouble. "In all of our explorations over these past 50 years," Hay tells us, "we've only uncovered the tip of the iceberg. There's lots more to do, and lots more for me to do, and it's high time we got going." ▼

For more information on the Harry Hay Documentary Project, please contact Eric Slade at (415) 752-1277.

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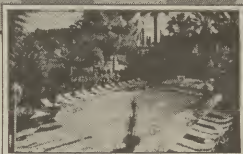
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Touched by an Angel

Doing lunch in the Castro with 'Rent's cross-dressing Angel, Shaun Earl.

page 81

Keeping up with Jones

Choreographer Bill T. Jones talks dance talk.

page 84



Taking it sleazy

'Sleazoid Express' film festival at Yerba Buena.

page 82



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 25 • 24 June 1999

Narcissus to the rescue

by Erin Blackwell

James Bidgood's erotic aesthetic soothes what ails us

A film that's been around as long as *Pink Narcissus* (1971) is bound to have a reputation that precedes it. The value of this acknowledged cult masterpiece may even be undermined by its familiarity. Reseen in a post-gay liberation context, this lyrical fantasia on gay male erotic themes is not just a time capsule of outmoded sexual style, but an aesthetic manifesto whose subversive artifice might serve as an antidote to today's culture of commodified sexual personae. The film plays the Victoria Theatre this Saturday night during the last week-

end of the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

For most of its underground theatrical career, *Pink Narcissus* has had the populist cachet of being directed by Anonymous. Its creator is now revealed to have been James Bidgood, an innovative erotic photographer for '60s physique magazines. Whatever his day job, Bidgood the auteur was a fairy fanatic who could leave no surface untouched by gold spray paint and rhinestones, no color unsaturated, and no real thing in place of a faux.

Bidgood did, however, exercise re-

page 92 ►

Bobby Reginald in the classic film *Pink Narcissus*

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by Roberto Friedman
and Go-Go Gus

How's your Homosexual Pride Thang going? Hellza just poppin' around these parts lately, all caught up as we are in the annual June mad social whirl. The Castro Theatre crowd at the opening night of the SF International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival was easily rousable, especially by the short retrospective of Film Fest promo trailers since 1990. Last year's straight-couple-finds-queer-love promo upstaged even this year's terrific Jesse-Helms'-greatest-nightmare masterpiece. At the top of the show, our four fave SF supes (Ammiano, Bierman, Katz and Leno) took the stage, but somebody forgot the proclamation. "Run, Tom, run" Tom, feeling heady from his big profile piece in the *NY Times* that day, vamped a bit with his "As Mayor of the Emerald City, I hereby proclaim..." shtick, then shared his breathless fantasy of a Queer IMAX theatre, with Jeff Stryker's schlong eight stories high. When we saw him the next night at the *Stravinsky* festival, Ammiano seemed to have calmed down considerably. But he sure does "run, Tom, run" around.

Ambassador James Hormel was introduced from the stage and given a rollicking standing O. Also spotted in the opening night crowd: Academy Award-winning filmmakers Rob Epstein and Debra Chasnoff. (The latter's *It's Elementary* — *Talking About Gay Issues in School* airs on KQED, Channel 9 on Wed., June 30 at 8 p.m.)

Festival Co-Directors Michael Lumpkin and Jennifer Morris dedicated this year's queer film

fest to poet and filmmaker James Broughton, and screened one of his fey mystic reveries. Then it was time for opening night feature *trick*'s director Jim Fall to take the stage, only to bring up his lead actors, editor, writer and producers. Since we hadn't seen the movie yet, "I know you have no idea who they are," Fall pleaded, "but applaud them anyway!"

Fall also admitted he'd heard that we were a notoriously opinionated audience, and guess what, he's right. Of *trick* we'd say: it's a treat, but a disposable one. Lead loverboy Christian Campbell has dimples you could park several SUVs in, and still have room for a Yuppie Eradication Project rally. Sex object

J.P. Pitoc is a tall drink of muscley water, and as he plays a go-go boy in the film, we get to make friends with his nipples. Miss CoCo Peru has the best line in the flick ("It burns!"), and name gal *Tori Spelling* is surprisingly, like, ex-celent.

And there they all were (minus Tori) at the packed party afterwards in the festive Castro parking lot — er, we mean, pavilion — where we were already swilling champers and investigating the possibility of h'ors d'oeuvres. The dreamy male leads were so much tinier than their glamorous projections upon the Silver Screen! Alas, this is where we part paths with gushy party dish. We're never surprised anymore when our publicist pals try to pedal interviews with sexy straight actors cast as leads in new gay flicks. But must said actors then necessarily drape themselves with their girlfriends in order to make the party scene? We witnessed one heterosexual cake-feeding that was especially repugnant. No wonder the



Trick stars J.P. Pitoc (top), Miss CoCo Peru, and Christian Campbell, co-producer Bob Hawk (second row), and director Jim Fall (bottom), at the SF International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival opening night party.

boys' kissing scenes were so detached and curiously lit!

The afternoon paper apparently considered one party photo with a short caption in very large type to be ample coverage of the film fest, then misidentified Campbell as "go-go stripper" Pitoc. Oops, well you know all gayboys look alike — even if they're straight.

The Mouse that poured

The Walt Disney Corporation — and the current vogue in City Hall for renting out public facilities to the highest bidder — took rather a bath in public relations when news got out that the crew of the Disney pic *Bicentennial Man* filming in City Hall accidentally set off the fire alarm — oops! — and sprinkler system, turning the set into instant *Poseidon Adventure*. That gilded municipal building seems to be getting more use as a swimming pool these days (recent damage due to liquids at the Black & White Ball, and now the *Wonderful World of Disney*) than as the seat of our city government.

Before the deluge but still into the wee hours of the a.m., jazz singer Paula West was singing "Embraceable You" in front of a 24-piece big band in the ballroom scene for the Chris Columbus-helmed Robin Williams-starring vehicle. The scene reportedly required a huge throng of actors and extras, but Wardrobe and Makeup were more than up to the challenge. Ms. West tells *Out There* that her custom-made gown, six-inch shoes, dazzling hairdo and makeup were Disney-budget-sized dazzling. And at least the Mouse knows whom to hire. Says Paula: "Every woman who wants to look good should have four gay men dressing her, honey!"

We're glad that Columbus heard the call to "Go West, young man" for the ballroom chanteuse in his picture. When she is not living la dolce vita as a glamorous movie star, West is busy getting ready for her concert at the Herb-

page 100 ►

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Affairs of State

Kaliyuga Arts' 'Pride' at the Exit Theatre

by Richard Dodds

A new play titled *Pride* has arrived along with the rainbow flags down Market Street, but despite its Gay Pride timeliness, the eponymous pride is the bad type. You know, the kind that goeth before a fall.

The central character in Myles Weber's play indeed takes a fall, but he seems more a victim of bad luck than his previously prideful ways. It's a perplexing conclusion to a play that has been both literate and engrossing, but it also befits a work that resists predictable turns.

Kaliyuga Arts, a producing partnership with a reputation for the offbeat and bizarre, is in a more linear mode with *Pride*, a play that arrived unsolicited from a late-blooming playwright. A resident of the Washington, DC area who gave up his career at the State Department to pursue playwrighting, Weber displays a developed sense of dialogue, a subtle but cunning wit, and a somewhat dark view of gay human nature.

Weber's central character, Neil, is also an aspiring writer who works for the State Department. In



Jett Pihakis and Michael McAllister in Myles Weber's *Pride*

each of the three short acts, we see him in a different mood and in an encounter with a different man.

In the opening act, Neil is verbally sparring with his withdrawing current boyfriend. "I enjoy my

time with you," the chilly Doug tells Neil, before adding after an almost imperceptible pause, "in general." When Doug suggests that the emotionally needy Neil might find help in therapy, Neil responds, "I'm not sure I'd benefit talking to someone less perceptive than I am."

This sense of superiority, tinged with a 30-something ruefulness, takes a bitter turn in the second act after Neil, dumped by Doug, finds himself in a chance encounter with Doug's new boyfriend. That this libidinous twink is ready to play behind Doug's back helps confirm Neil's jaundiced view of gay habits. "Someone should remake *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* and set it in the gay community," he says to his uncomprehending temporary consort.

The third act finds Neil on his good behavior as he prepares dinner for a personable Spaniard he met at an art museum. It's an interesting scene of tentative courtship that takes on an off-kilter tone when Neil must make a particularly grim phone call as part of his State Department duties. The unexpected arrival of old-boyfriend Doug with new-boyfriend Brady is one of the playwright's few lapses into contrivance, and that artifice undermines a bittersweet denouement.

Director John Sowle lets his cast develop the emotions of each scene, and each actor provides a faceted and finely tuned performance. Steven Patterson (co-founder with Sowle of Kaliyuga Arts) makes the most of his showcase role of Neil, creating an original character that still rings true in his various emotional permutations. As Doug, Jett Pihakis ably suggests this somber, handsome hedonist, while Michael McAllister creates a seamless portrait of party-boy Brady. There is an inviting delicacy to Erik Kever Ryle's performance of Alberto, who comes into Neil's life at just the wrong moment.

Pride is not a play with a happy ending, unless you consider a thoughtful, well-executed play a happy end unto itself. It's certainly a welcome entrance that Myles Weber has made at the Exit. This emerging gay playwright displays a distinctive new voice in which he can take pride—the good type. ▼



Mary Jo Mrochinski and Caitlin McClure in *Parallel Lives*

No mo' Mo

'Parallel Lives'

by Richard Dodds

It's *The Kathy and Mo Show* without Kathy and Mo. But, surprisingly, it works more often than not.

Audiences who happily remember when Kathy Najimy and Mo Gaffney performed their self-titled collection of sketches at the Eureka Theatre in 1987 and Theatre on the Square in 1991 may bristle at the notion of the material being recreated by anyone but Kathy and Mo. But for those of us who didn't get to see the originals, and perhaps for those curious to see how a new pair of faces will fare, the current rendering titled *Parallel Lives* should provide an amusing ride.

At the New Conservatory Theatre Center, local performers Mary Jo Mrochinski and Caitlin McClure are up to the considerable task of each playing a dozen characters in as many sketches. These characters are men and women, grown-ups and children, upscale folks and trailer trash that Mrochinski and McClure convey with comic polish.

Mrochinski and McClure also preserve the visual yin and yang of the ample Najimy and the slender Gaffney, which becomes part of the fabric of material.

Parallel Lives is being presented as part of NCTC's Celebrating Women Festival, though its short feminist sword would rather draw laughs than blood. Mostly it's about the absurdities of everyday life: two old biddies trying to be hip, a mismatched guy and girl on a date, two youngsters trying to reimagine *West Side Story* in their suburban terms, and three sisters who realize that sibling love doesn't necessarily require like. A few of the pieces have a dusting of age, but most find their resonance in enduring human foibles.

Director Kathryn G. McCarty has smoothly staged the multi-segmented production that may not erase memories of Kathy and Mo, but should create a few memories of Caitlin and Mary Jo. ▼

Parallel Lives will run at the New Conservatory Theatre Center through July 31. Tickets are \$12 and \$16. Call 861-8972.

Pride will run at the Exit Theatre through July 3. Tickets are \$12. Call 431-8423.

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GUARDIAN

Lofty ambition

SF Mime Troupe to stage 'City for Sale'

by Deborah Peifer

Artists are the unwitting first wave of gentrification. Artists don't change the economic level of a neighborhood — we're as poor as anyone else — but we're culturally privileged and sophisticated, and we lead the way. Lesbians play the same role as artists — all social pariahs play that role."

And to think I worried Joan Holden wouldn't have anything to say on the topic of her new show, written with her daughter, Kate Chumley, *City for Sale*, the forthcoming production of the San Francisco Mime Troupe. I spoke with Holden about the show, and she had plenty more to say.

"In 1998, I learned that 38 live/work lofts were going to be built at 21st and Harrison. These lofts were not being built for poor artists [the original intention of the live/work program], but they

were being built as condos. This was the poorest corner in the Mission, and it was clear to anyone that this development was totally inappropriate for the neighborhood," said Holden. "So a group of activists went to the Planning Commission to point out this obvious fact, and were stunned when the development passed. We held a neighborhood meeting to stop this and failed, but the protests continued."

In one of the most egregious affronts to the spirit of the live/work program, Holden explains, "a new condo was built that blocked the natural light for a building full of artists. What we're seeing in the Mission is economic cleansing. The Mission is being bleached, and it's changing from a neighborhood where people live and work to a destination for peo-

ple going out on the town. The city has turned against the bulldozer redevelopment of a few years ago, so what we have now is stealth redevelopment. This issue is on the radar for a lot of people now. We have to ask just who will be able to live in San Francisco. Do we want to remove everyone who makes less than \$50,000 a year? And what happens after the slash-and-burn development, when the trends they destroyed the neighborhoods for are over?"

When Holden decided to write the show, "There was a click, and I saw the whole show. It's about a young woman who's looking for a place to live, and is thrilled when she finds an affordable loft apartment in a colorful urban neighborhood. The tenants of the building, who are being evicted so their



Curtain Up!



Stephanie Taylor and Amos Glick in SF Mime Troupe's *City for Sale*

apartments can be converted into high-end lofts, are less thrilled."

As for what happens next, Holden says, "You'll have to come to see the show to find out. I'm telling you, it's weird, though. I

write dialogue, and the next week I see the same words in the paper. Sometimes life does imitate art."

City for Sale opens July 4 at Dolores Park and runs through summer all over the Bay Area. Call 285-1717 or visit www.sfmt.org for information. The show is free, and if you think it can't happen to you, take a look at the Castro, then see *City for Sale*.

Parallelograms

The New Conservatory Theatre presents *Parallel Lives* as the next production in its Celebrating Women Festival. The show, written by Mo Gaffney and Kathy Najimy, began its life at the Eureka Theatre as *The Kathy and Mo Show*. Although the show was written for their particular talents, the script is strong enough for the show to stand on its own with different actors.

Director Kathryn G. McCarty was drawn to the play by the power of the writing. "I love character-driven comedy, especially when a few actors [in this case, two] play lots of different roles," McCarty said. "It's a tribute to the writers that the play can be done without Kathy and Mo. The script is full of regular humor. It looks at people's lives — the characters are looking at trouble straight in the face and laughing."

McCarty is especially impressed at the lack of meanness in the script. "Even when they're poking fun at a character, there is real affection for that character underneath the laughs," McCarty says the philosophy of the play is one in which she believes entirely: "You can do anything you want to do as long as you're willing to get up and do it." Are you willing to trek down to NCT and laugh yourself silly? *Parallel Lives* runs through July 31 at NCT, 25 Van Ness at Market. Call 861-8972 for reservations.

Briefly

Wilma Bonet (always worth a look) and others appear in *Alice: Tales of a Curious Girl*, an adaptation from Lewis Carroll by Karen Hartman, presented by Thick Description at New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom (between 8th and 9th St.) through July 11. Call 565-0331.

If you just feel that you're not quite paranoid enough about your job, check out *The Bug* at the Z Space Studio, 1360 Mission St., through July 18. Call 437-6775. ▼

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THEATRE

Pride-bound Angel

'Rent's Shaun Earl to perform at SF Pride

by Richard Dodds

The waiter, who had been a twit throughout the meal, arrived with an offering of free dessert. "You have brought so much love into so many people's lives," he told Shaun Earl, the actor who plays the cross-dressing Angel in *Rent*, as a brick of chocolate confection was set before him.

The performer, his delicate features surrounded by an array of braids, seemed to stiffen just a bit, a smile frozen on his face. "The food was very good here, and I'm sure I'll back," replied Earl, not quite acknowledging the waiter's tribute. But when the waiter started singing one of Angel's songs from the musical, Earl's reserve was finally pierced. He broke into a big laugh, and gave the happy waiter a hug on his way out.

Earl had ventured into the heart of the Castro for a luncheon interview to talk about his role in *Rent* at the Golden Gate Theatre and his upcoming performance at the Gay Pride festivities this weekend. "I've never been to one before," he said of the Pride event.

Earl and co-star Mark Leroy Jackson, who plays Tom Collins, will sing "I'll Cover You," one of four songs that the *Rent* cast will perform beginning at 12:40 p.m. Sunday on the stage near City Hall.

"I'll Cover You," a tender love song sung by the two HIV-positive characters in the rock musical, was the song Earl learned for his first audition for *Rent* — even before he had seen the show. "There were several parts I could read for, and I randomly picked Angel because I liked the name," he said. "I didn't realize that he was in a relationship with a man, and then I learned he was in drag. Not until I finally saw the show did I realize what I had gotten myself into."

Earl's drag experiences had been limited to a Halloween party

thrown by former employer Reba McEntire at her Nashville ranch, where he dressed up as Noxeema, Wesley Snipe's character in *To Wong Foo*. As for portraying a gay man in a relationship with another man, this, too, was outside his own experiences. "That isn't my lifestyle," he said quietly.

With women, then? "I've been more married to my career," he said, agreeing that the word 'neutral' might best describe him. He talked of soulmates, and connections beyond the sexual. "It takes a long time for a tree to grow," he said, the final words on that subject.

Although he knew practically nothing about *Rent* when he auditioned, he has become a champion of the show and its message. "It's an affirmation of the way I live my life," said Earl, who is in his early 30s. "Too often, people only seize the moment when they realize life is coming to an end. To see how the show celebrated life, and to have such a taboo character convey that message, it was, 'Wow.'"

'Rent' al contract

Earl has been with *Rent* for more than two years, and his contract will keep him with the show at least through January. Before *Rent*, he was dancing in Reba McEntire's Las Vegas-style concert act, and before that, on the *Fame* television series, beginning when he was still in high school in Los Angeles.

"I didn't know I had talent, but I was driven to emulate whatever I saw on TV," he said. "My desire was to be on *Soul Train* or *American Bandstand*, and I didn't know about the process of training. I learned on the job, giving the impression I knew what I was doing."

Earl had learned how to fit in from an early age. "My mother moved around a lot, and I went to eight elementary schools," he said. "It made me adaptable. People were always trying to put me into

categories, and I could decide what I wanted to show." The self-described chameleon added, "I have many colors, and as long as I keep living, I'll develop more colors."

Rent arrived in San Francisco in the beginning of March, and will run here at least through the fall. The long run has given the cast plenty of opportunity to experience the city, but Earl hasn't been a man about town.

"When we arrived, they did take us on a helicopter ride and to Alcatraz as a group," he said. "But our life really starts when we do the show, and after the show, everything is closed."

There is bowling once a week at Japantown, and his afternoon highlight is the soap opera *All My Children*. "I've been watching it since the eighth grade," Earl said. "Since I don't have drama in my life, I have to tune it in."

Judging from the positive attention he attracted at the restaurant, not just from the waiter but also from several diners who recognized him, Earl could probably have an active social life if he were interested.

"No one has ever asked me out on a date since we got to San Francisco," he said.

Would he go if someone did? "If I liked their energy. But it they're thinking they'd get a kiss at the end, that's just too much pressure."

But there was a hug for the reporter before Earl headed back to



Shaun Earl in *Rent*

his apartment for his steady date with *All My Children*. ▼

Rent is continuing its run at the Golden Gate Theatre. Tickets are \$22-\$69.50. Call 512-7770.

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BAY AREA REPORTER

Due North

'Glance Bay Miners' Museum'

by Richard Dodds

Theaters are often described as intimate, but the Phoenix II takes the cupcake. Formerly known as the Jewel Theatre, this 27-seat venue is like having an acting troupe take over your living room. It's a theater where you'd better not be using the restroom when the play begins, or else you'll be making an unexpected cameo appearance in the show.

But as tiny as the theater may be, the first production under the Phoenix's wing doesn't feel small. *The Glance Bay Miners' Museum* tells the story of a hardscrabble family on the eastern coast of Nova Scotia where coal mining is a matter of life and death. The title of playwright Wendy Lill's work (based on a novel by Sheldon Currie) may seem unduly prosaic, but the play itself is not, and the title comes into focus in an unexpected surreal conclusion.

Up to that point, the play has been a straightforward memory play told by Margaret MacNeil



Jack O'Rourke and Emily Ackerman in *The Glance Bay Miners' Museum*

(Emily Ackerman), the daughter and sister of miners who had been killed in an accident. An ornery young woman with the unfortunate nickname "snot nose," she is wooed by an idealistic layabout (Jack O'Rourke) whose passion is

page 86 ►

YOU'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT HIM...



Grindhouse revisited

'Sleazoid Express Festival' at YBC

by Gary Morris

When Disney and MTV moved in on Times Square, more was lost in the "clean-up" than the always colorful streetlife. One of the big casualties was the 1970s grindhouse — those dilapidated movie palaces that played host to scores of obscure exploitation movies and often wilder scenarios in their orchestras and balconies. The lure of the grindhouse was unique; it was an irresistible destination not only for the marginalized — homeless people, curious students, horny queens, mental cases — but also for "respectable" businessmen, who could find solace in the arms, or mouths, of strangers while the movie blared on.

Every demimonde has its chroniclers, and this one was no exception. One of the most thorough was Bill Landis, whose legendary zine *Sleazoid Express* documented the scene, the street culture that surrounded and suffused it, and the creators and patrons. To honor this sadly vanished era, the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts has unearthed eight typical "sleazoid" features that range from horror-snuff (*Last House on Dead End Street*) to trashy social-consciousness film (*Fight for Your Life*) to hardcore porn both gay (*The Back Row*) and straight (*Behind the Green Door*).

The series opens Thursday,

June 24, with John Wintergate's *Boarding House*; released in 1983, this is the latest film in the group. Unseen by this reviewer, it nonetheless sounds like a must from the description: "A swinging psychic ... turns his tacky suburban home into a women's boarding house." No doubt a masterpiece of the "swinging psychic" genre. Probably the most "sleazoid" of this lot is the second on this bill, Victor Janos's 1977 *Last House on Dead End Street*. The characters are porn filmmakers who decide to make snuff movies in order to maintain their market share. The film cuts costs with lots of voiceover sequences, exceptionally seedy backgrounds, and sleazebag characters who look like they were paid in smack. There's the obligatory "retard with a whip" scene, lame justifications ("chicks dig danger"), and kinky sex 'n' splatter that recalls Herschel Gordon Lewis. A creepily clinical nightmare recommended only for genre completists.

Friday's show is called "Ultra-Freaky Obscurities," and the first two films certainly live up to the phrase. Guerdon Trueblood's *The Candy Snatchers* (1974) is a convoluted story of a trio of unlikely criminals — the woman looks like a Christian pop star — who put on fake noses and kidnap Candy, the daughter of a wealthy jeweler. This is the kind of off-kilter movie where a character repeatedly screams, "Shut up!" to someone

who has stopped talking. Still, it has plenty of plot twists, loads of amusing period fashions, and a theme song that will lodge forever in some viewers' heads.

Bonnie's epic journey

Raphael Nussbaum's *Pets*, made the same year, is action-packed trash, a kind of female version of Homer's *Odyssey*. Poor, beautiful Bonnie (Candace Rialson, who also made movies for Roger Corman) lurches from one misadventure to another. First she hooks up with the vicious Pat, a Coffy-esque gal who punctuates her kidnappings and robberies with black-power lingo. Then she meets a lesbian artist who paints and fucks her, then kills her boyfriend. Next it's off to the cages of an "eccentric" (read: insane) art collector, who lures her into his basement for training as a masochist and "pet." One of the film's themes was also a major lure for grindhouse patrons — class conflict. Bonnie's from the scheming lower classes, and those she encounters and ultimately topples are middle-class (or higher) creeps. The film is also notable for more wonderfully anonymous pop music.

Saturday's double feature mines some of the news of the day. The Manson murders are reprised in Bob Roberts' 1971 *Sweet Savior*, also known as *The Love-Thrill Murders*. In a bizarre



Candace Rialson as Bonnie in Raphael Nussbaum's *Pets*

bit of casting dictated undoubtedly by the star's failing fortunes, Roberts cast the sunny, likable Troy Donahue in the mock-Manson role of Moon. The film is shameless in stealing every detail from its source: there are the mind-games ("now everybody say 'cock'"), the gibberish that hides behavior mod ("I'm you and you're me, right?"), the orgies, the drugged-out interludes, and of course plenty of gore. Like *Pets*, this one has a blunt class angle; Moon and his hippies are hired to enliven up the tedious sex parties of wealthy swingers. And Moon is in fact egalitarian when he's not murdering people; in the spirit of the orgy, he forces one of his horrified straight male lieutenants to go to bed with a queen named Fritz. Fritz also has a wonderful speech that begins, "I was young, just a slip of a girl, and I loved cock!" Hilarious.

Also on the bill with *Sweet Savior* is Robert A. Endelson's *Fight for Your Life* (1977). This ragged, lively exercise in brutality has the familiar plot of the psychos who invade and terrorize a respectable middle-class family. But Endelson adds a twist not often seen even in the glory days of the grindhouse: the beleaguered family is black. The leader of the psychos is William Sanderson, familiar from *Blade Runner* and *The Bob Newhart Show*, and he gives a noisily effective, no-holds-barred performance. This one's difficult to watch — the level of voyeuristic sadism is high even by sleazoid standards — but proves the point that there's nothing like a low-budget movie to render low-budget lives.

Once the courts gave their go-ahead, hardcore porn was as common on Times Square as dirty needles. There are two historically significant entries in this series. The Mitchell Brothers' *Behind the Green Door* (1972) hasn't worn well over the years. Quasi-impossible tableaux like glamorous Marilyn Chambers giving two hand jobs while blowing one guy and getting fucked by another look more tiring than titillating, and the film's self-consciously decadent air (there's even a mime, for Chrissakes) quickly grates. Jerry Douglas's gay porn feature *The Back Row* (1972) is more enticing, not least because of Casey Donovan's fetching looks, winsome expressions, and eternal hard-on. Set mostly in an all-male theater, the film follows endless attempts by cute George Payne (who also made straight porn) to hook up with Casey. There's lots of location footage in New York's queer underground, along with bareback sex, cocksucking, butt-fucking, and butt-munching, and some incredibly cheesy music ("Tomorrow may be gone when you arrive"). The movie even toys with self-reflection; there are scenes in which Casey watches himself having sex on screen. But many grindhouse patrons of the time — no doubt including those respectable businessmen — were probably too busy crawling around those dirty, sticky floors to notice. ▼

Sleazoid Express plays the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Thurs.-Sat., June 24-26. For tickets, \$6, call 978-2787.

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Wily Wilde

'An Ideal Husband'

by Matthew Kennedy

London in 1895, as Oscar Wilde saw it, was a place and time ripe for the exposure of hypocrisy. In this film version of his play, rising young politician Sir Robert Chiltern (Jeremy Northam) hides a secret that would ruin his career and his marriage to the seemingly incorruptible Lady Chiltern (Cate Blanchett). A gold-digging viper in the form of Mrs. Cheveley (Julianne Moore) descends on the idyllic couple and threatens to reveal Chiltern's indiscretions unless he supports a shady scheme involving British interests in Argentina. Meanwhile, Lord Goring (Rupert Everett), long-time friend to Chiltern, finds himself caught



Rupert Everett

between everyone's conflicts and the interests of Chiltern's sister (Minnie Driver), who is, like Goring, conveniently single.

page 92 ►

OPERA

Valhalla or bust

'Ring' cycle's final two operas succeed against all odds

by Stephanie von Buchau

San Francisco Opera spin doctors keep insisting that theirs is a dramatic art form. Opera is theater, they tell us. It needs to be cast with handsome singers with whom a younger demographic can identify, thus renewing the doddering audience base. Productions should be fresh, provocative, imaginative.

Then SFO presents Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* in an inconsistent clichéd production that would make a high school drama teacher blush, casts it with two-ton sopranos, and stages it by a director who either hates opera (remember when he killed the tenor at the end of *Puritani*?) or is the most self-serving opportunist since Wagner himself.

With postmodern irony, this ghastly mish-mash, its visuals mixing MGM glitz with fine arts plunder (I loved the juxtaposition of Brancusi trees with John Conklin's original 19th-century Romantic architectural styles), turned out to be quite thrilling. Why? It's the music, stupid. Last Sunday's *Siegfried*, the third installment of the *Ring* cycle, was, at least for two-thirds of its length, the best I'd witnessed in 37 years' experience with this opera.

Gary Rideout, twitching and gibbering, reminded us forcibly that Mime is not a charming, vertically challenged fellow, but a hideous, duplicitous dwarf. After an opening paragraph in which I feared he had channeled Graham Clark (the most obnoxious character tenor since Solti's Gerhard Stolze), Rideout produced Mime's insincere wheedling and murderous thoughts with appealing clarity of tone. And he was consistently funny.

A great Mime usually steals *Siegfried* from the paunchy, 40-something title character, but in this case, Wolfgang Schmidt, who must have balls of steel to ignore the barrage of hatred in the local press that followed his *Tristan* last season, refused to let Rideout purloin the opera. With his burly build, blond coiffure and gleaming teeth, Schmidt looks like a guy you might see propping up the Lone Star's bar on Saturday night. Admittedly, he has vocal flaws, magnified when he ran out of gas in *Götterdämmerung*, three days after this splendid *Siegfried*.

Schmidt's rhythm is suspect (Wolfgang Windgassen, my generation's finest *Siegfried*, couldn't count the "Forging Song," either), and when he sings sustained music, his pitch tends to sag. That's what got him in trouble in *Tristan*, for that is a "horizontal" (i.e. long, sustained lines) score, while *Siegfried* is "vertical" (i.e. short bursts of energy). Schmidt is obviously happier in vertical music. He has plenty of power, high notes up the wazoo (though he sometimes makes them up on the spot), can sing sweetly when called upon, and plays the swaggering adolescent lad with hormonal conviction.

Since stage director Andrei Serban mostly stayed out of the way in *Siegfried* — not even he dared impose his silliness on Rideout, Schmidt and James Morris (Wanderer) when they were operating at this level of intensity and artistic commitment — that left conductor Donald Runnicles to bask in the glory of his SFO or-



Wolfgang Schmidt as Siegfried

chestra. The first two acts were close to perfection. That subterranean growling of the tubas and low strings had all the subliminal charge missing when *Das Rheingold*'s opening E-flat was "enhanced" by something called an oscillator (sounds like a sex toy) that produces exactly the opposite effect required by the composer.

Amped up

The second act, where I usually catch up on sleep, kept me rivetingly awake, at least until the Forest Bird (Suzanne Ramo) was amplified so oddly that her natural vibrato transformed into a cartoon wobble; don't blame the singer, she didn't wobble as an unamplified Rhinemaiden. Speaking of that modern dramatic tool, "amplification," since SFO is so eager to "enhance" singers, why did they let the *Rheingold*'s poor Giants, buried in those puppet costumes, go unheard until after the first cycle? That's what rehearsals are for, gang. The Giants were then "enhanced" for the next three cycles.

Runnicles' specialties are rhythmic precision (the average singer must give him indigestion), balance between pit and stage (though he ruthlessly drowns out inadequate voices), and the courage to embrace Wagnerian grandeur. No pussyfooting in *Siegfried*'s "Funeral March," which thundered and crashed like a bombing raid on Kosovo (only managing to hit the target). If Runnicles has a weakness, it is a seeming inability to let go in the love music. *Die Walküre*'s first act was tepid tea considering the lung power of its protagonists, while *Siegfried*'s and *Götterdämmerung*'s love duets were strenuous rather than passionate.

I don't know what the answer is, though Schmidt and Jane Eaglen (Brünnhilde) strike me more as warriors than lovers. After sounding (and acting) insipidly girlish in *Walküre* and downright chilly in *Siegfried*, Eaglen was announced before the *Götterdämmerung* to be suffering from a cold and desiring our indulgence. Hah. Once past the arthritic love duet — and it has nothing to do with her size; Rita Hunter, who was as big as a pizza shack, sang the sexiest Wagnerian love duets I've ever heard — Eaglen produced a fierce second act. Here was a woman scorned and furious enough to kill the man she loves. If Stephen Wadsworth, director of the 2001 Seattle Opera *Ring* cycle,

can harness Eaglen's energy and sustain it over three operas, Wagnerians will get their money's worth.

Whatever he does, Wadsworth will not produce anything as embarrassing as Serban's *Götterdämmerung* finale, which not only traduced the music, but took the starch out of the audience. As that great gullywasher of tunes — the Rhine, Valhalla, twilight of the gods, redemption through love — wove its orchestral splendor, Serban decided that the one character Wagner had not accounted for, Alberich, should remount the Rhinemaidens' rock from which he stole the gold 15 hours previously. Still clad in ludicrous Pulcinella bodystocking and Wozzeck overcoat, Alberich (Tom Fox) suddenly raised his hand and made a "C" with thumb and forefinger. What did this mean? Capitalism? Cowardice? C Major? How inconvenient for the music at that point to be in D-flat.

This entire *Ring* production, as glorious as it was musically, suffered from seat-of-the-pants amateurism that spoke painfully of not enough thought, not enough talent (Serban's concept even managed to make SFO's sterling lighting director, Tom Munn, look inept in places), and not enough money to successfully "*Macht Neues*" (make something new, Wagner's own request), yet too much ego to honor the original Terry McEwen production,



Soprano Jane Eaglen as Brünnhilde

which, after all, was once considered the most beautiful *Ring* in the world. ▼

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Embracing a queer identity

Interview with choreographer Bill T. Jones

by Aimée Ts'ao

He could be just anyone dressed in sweats, silhouetted against the windows

overlooking Mission and 24th Street, but as he starts to move, slowing limbering up before he begins teaching a workshop, suddenly you are aware that this man is no ordinary dancer. His informality and warmth lull you into feeling part of the group, but he is a quiet taskmaster who knows what he wants to see from the students, even if few are capable of giving it to him. He is both articulate and poetic, correcting the dancers with the explanation that "the toes curl like waves in a Japanese woodcut." After two and a half hours, he declares that "there is nothing theoretical in dancing," as he points to his heart, the true source of the movement. The class is over, but I feel so lucky that I can still spend time with him as we trudge downstairs to Café La Bohème for an interview. Amidst the café's stereo blaring salsa music and the sound of dishes clattering, Bill T. Jones and I sit down to talk.

Aimée Ts'ao: I don't know how to say this. You're here for the National Queer Arts Festival, right? I know some people don't like to identify themselves. For instance, Alonzo King, a choreographer here in San Francisco, doesn't like to be called a black choreographer.

Bill T. Jones: I don't like to be called a queer choreographer, either. But I respect very much what's behind that label, or what's behind the Festival. In a brand-name culture, a culture that needs product identification, it pays to have something that jumps out. So I put aside the reservations I have about it and join in. I think I am bigger than any one definition of me. It's an ongoing battle, but it's a good battle.

I suppose you don't like to be called a black choreographer, either?

No, not necessarily, but there's a lot that gets done right now for the sake of expediency. TV programs, grants written, polls taken, and they use a lot of shorthand and a lot of grouping. The important thing is, when the curtain goes up, what is the stuff of which you're made, and does that stuff transcend your definitions? That's a life's work.

Transcending the definitions?

But absorbing them, too, and honoring them. Honoring what part of me is that, but that's not the end, it's the beginning. I'd be hard-pressed to speak for all people, but I think that the time is such right now that we need to work on our political base, we need an identity on every front. We need an artistic identity. We need to recognize a sensibility, to know what makes us different, so we can grow strong. That's the philosophy behind it. I know from the dialogues going on in the '70s around issues like feminism. Why a women's art festival, a women's art colony or collective? They needed it. At that moment, they were not strong in their identity as individuals, and their place in the mass was not safe, so people needed to circle the wagons. I don't begrudge anyone that. Don't do it to me, don't assume that you will appropriate me, and then expect me to behave



Bill T. Jones

a certain way.

No one has done that to me in this festival. They've done just the opposite. They've been very respectful of my art coming first. They've shown a great respect for my accomplishments, and they are proud of me as a homosexual man, so they call me a queer artist. I see that as putting arms around, embracing, and for a person who has spent so much time feeling alienated, for all sorts of reasons, now I take the embraces where I can get them.

I know that you are dropping away from theatricality and text and wanting to use pure movement more. Do you feel that your work is shifting that dramatically, or is it subtler?

It has to be [subtler]. Ralph [Lemon] disbanded his company, and that is completely radical. Our company is going to be celebrating our twentieth year in 2002. I'm proud of that date, somehow it's all connected to Arnie's death [Jones' partner and lover of 17 years died in 1988 of AIDS], Arnie's life, and the fact that the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company has been alive for twenty years. Tomorrow I couldn't chuck it and become just Bill T. Jones. I am trying to build a legacy. For some reason this alienated man, who cannot trace his ancestors past his great-grandfather, has a desire for tradition. The shifting will go on within a pre-existing framework, which is costly and nerve-racking.

It would be easier to just reinvent yourself. It's difficult to keep the framework and try to fit yourself into it and...

Not resent it. Oh, this thing [the company] I'm carrying on my back, why can't I just shuck it off? Wait a minute, I choose to carry this thing, and I do with pride. It is something I have cultivated, something I honor. So that's a discipline, how not to grow bitter. Whenever I'm complaining, moaning and groaning, I say, look at Ralph, I could go that way, but no, I made a choice. That being said, I am now finding ways to take time away from the company and do something really different, like the piece with Jesse Norman and now one for AXIS Dance Company in Oakland. And I have a solo show which will be touring until next summer.

Are you bringing it to Zellerbach?

Yes, in February. And then the whole company will be performing at Yerba Buena at the end of March.

Our interview is over, but I don't have to wait more than a few hours to see Bill T. Jones again. His lecture/demonstration at Brava! For Women In The Arts theatre proves to be even more delightful and insightful. He takes the audience on an archeological survey of himself, from childhood to the present, putting a microscope to his personal and artistic development. Reading frequently from his memoirs, *Last Night on Earth*, and then elaborating on or offering his now differing perspective, he proves to be both disarmingly honest and unembarrassed by public self-reflection. I can only leave feeling the greatest admiration for such a remarkable human being and artist. ▼

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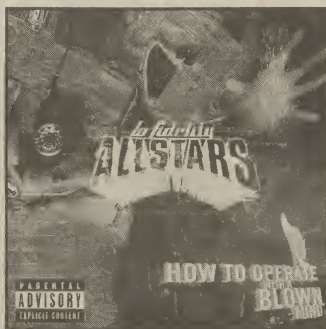
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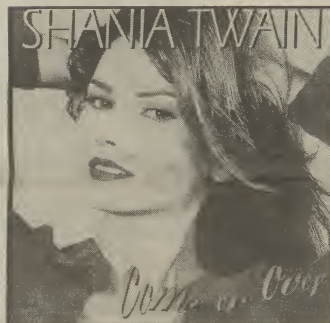


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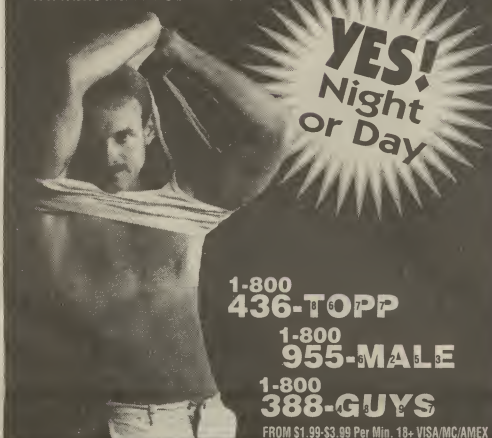
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Highlights of 'MTT's Mavericks'

by Philip Campbell

The San Francisco Symphony's fourth annual *Mavericks* concert — a celebration of individualism and innovation in music — came and went without much buzz last week. There was a nostalgic glow about the evening and much collegial interaction, but little in the way of surprise or discovery.

The smallish crowd would have filled a more intimate venue, but since the orchestra section of Davies Hall was the only seating in use, the general feeling remained cozy. Old friends and fresh faces waved and yoo-hoed to one another, and I spotted composer John Adams, looking relaxed, chatting with admirers during the break.

With so many members of the national press in town to cover the Stravinsky Festival and the Ring cycle across the street at the War Memorial Opera House, it was impossible to assess the actual public interest in this year's *Mavericks*. The effect of folding a contemporary music celebration into a larger festival is a little like certain bills that pass through the U.S. Senate, where funding is quietly assured for some less-than-surefire deals on the back of bigger proposals.

At least the *Mavericks* concert is still a commitment made annually to living writers, and the host of the evening, Michael Tilson Thomas, made a vague suggestion that the millennium would see a bigger and splashier event. He made himself unusually scarce for the proceedings, appearing only twice, once at the top of each half. With the enormity of the ongoing Stravinsky fest surely consuming all his energies, it was a pleasant surprise to see him at all.

The concert gained in momentum throughout the night, although a louder or more auda-

cious beginning could not have been possible. Five SFS Youth Orchestra percussionists together with SFS percussionist Tom Hemphill walked onstage, stripped to the waist and barefooted, for a tight performance of Russell Peck's *Liftoff!* After the wolf whistles and hoots of delighted audience members ceased, the crew managed to convey the exciting arc of Peck's invention with assured stamina and enthusiasm. It was a promising start and more than worthy of its title.

The Kronos Quartet, venerable spokespeople for the avant garde, followed with a pleasant world tour that included three works written especially for them. New cellist Jennifer Culp seemed well at ease in some small, but satisfying compositions that displayed the group's usual sense of ensemble and superior taste. A tango, a piece commissioned from Yugoslavian writer Aleksandra Vrebalov, a personal take on a Korean folk song by Hyo-shin Na, a dreamy arrangement of Indian pop composer Rahul Dev Burman's *Tonight Is the Night* by Osvaldo Golijov, and Terry Riley's glistening *Cortejo Funebre en el Monte Diablo* from *Requiem for Adam* comprised a set that seemed subdued by Kronos' usual standards, but enjoyable nonetheless.

Spiritual emotion

The second half of the evening was altogether more substantial. Aaron Jay Kernis, a composer who grows in stature and my estimation with every hearing, was on hand to conduct soprano Susan Narucki and ten instrumentalists in *Simple Songs*. Dedicated to the late Leonard Bernstein and owing something to him by way of influence, perhaps a general air of emotional spirituality, the songs are based on texts from the Book of Psalms, Christian mystic Hildegard of Bingen, Sufi poet Rumi, and Japanese Zen master Ryokan.

Rather than color his settings with nationalistic exoticism, Kernis opts for a lush late or neo-Romantic style that creates a gemlike beauty with each song and an atmosphere of exquisite calm. Composed for Susan Narucki in 1991, the author and dedicatee made an impressive performing duo. Her lovely crystalline tone set off each number perfectly, and the orchestral support was ideal.

No Northern California concert that purports to show the quality of contemporary music could do without some representation of that grand old man of the Pacific Rim, Lou Harrison.

Audience members made a game of trying to spot him in the crowd, but settled instead for a gorgeous rendition of sections from his 1988 Grand Duo for Violin and Piano. David Abel, violin and Julie Steinberg, piano showed their practiced ease, and conveyed the whiff of Balinese gamelan that subtly permeates the piece. I could have listened to more Harrison, but another genuine maverick was scheduled to perform, and her appearance quickly stole the entire show.



Meredith Monk

Meredith Monk, along with a regular member of her performing group, Robert Eén, finished this year's bill of fare with selections from her own *Facing North*. Entering to tumultuous applause and an instantaneous audience rapport, La Monk genially assumed the role of star with the slightest of smiles, launching into a characteristic display of vocal bravura that brought the house down. Robert Eén was no slouch, himself.

The score was written as a quick diversion from the major chore of composing the opera *Atlas*, when Monk was happily ensconced in the real snowscape of the Canadian north. No intrusion of a more familiar, grimy New York shmush is pictured in this delightful evocation, though one hears everything from a touch of yodeling to Eskimo ritual.

Describing Meredith Monk's boundless wit, imagination and sheer musicality is futile, if not impossible. One either likes her music passionately or walks away with a bewildered shrug. I joined with the enthusiastic audience in an impassioned ovation. ▼

Glance Bay

◀ page 81

reconnecting with his Scottish heritage. Her family, including her brittle mother (Linda Ayres-Fredrick), an invalid grandfather (Robert Elross), and a union-touting brother (Ian McConnell), also becomes enchanted with this bagpipe-playing dreamer — at least until economic necessities take their toll.

The playwright, who has become a member of the Canadian Parliament since writing the play, is not exploring particularly novel territory here, but what she offers is handled skillfully. The produc-

tion is understandably not an elaborate one, and imagination must be used, but the passions are in place.

Director Margo Whitcomb has adroitly directed the talented cast, even if she allows for too much distracting stage business, including a nervous game of catch with a turnip while other characters are speaking. If I had been in the front row, I'd have been tempted to lean forward and grab that turnip. ▼

The Glance Bay Miners' Museum will run at the Phoenix II Theatre, 655 Geary St., through July 18. Tickets are \$16 and \$18. Call 567-3005.

Moonlighting

Take the night off with these piano CDs

by Timothy Pfaff

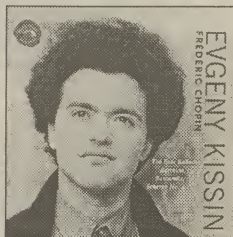
Peter Serkin's pre-concert recital at the Symphony's Stravinsky Festival last week was like balm to beleaguered music mavens. It wasn't just that it was good — in fact, it was brilliant — or that it was a clever enhancement of Michael Tilson Thomas' already generous, beautifully planned programs of the music of the individual who is very likely our century's greatest composer. What made it a salve was that it was small — intimate, manageable and eloquently soft-spoken — a winking eye in the midst of the hurricane that is Bay Area concert life in June. Three works — Stravinsky's A-Major Serenade, the Piano Sonata and "Piano-Rag-Music" — a half-hour total, top-notch playing and generous helpings of wit (Stravinsky's) and outright fun (Serkin's) in the bargain. Serkin could have won the mayor's race at 7:30 p.m. either night.

It's all a bit much, this festival season, and respites as enjoyable and accommodating as Serkin's count for a lot. Local music lovers who need an occasional evening off, left to the comforts of home, may be glad to know that while curtains have been going up all over town this month, the record companies have issued some piano CDs of more than usual interest. Take the evening off with any of these, and you'll be more than adequately rewarded.

Serkin fans will rejoice that BMG Classics has finally gotten around to releasing our hero's early-'70s RCA Victor recording of Olivier Messiaen's *Visions de l'Amen* on CD for the first time. Coupled with his equally celebrated reading of "La rousserolle effarvatte" from the composer's *Catalogue of the Birds*, Serkin's performance, with Yuji Takahashi, of the two-piano *Visions* has long set a standard of Messiaen playing, and the clarity of the CD remastering only adds to the lasting value of this project. Now if BMG will just surrender and release Serkin's even more important recording of Messiaen's *Vingt Regard sur l'enfant Jesus*, one of the great piano recordings of its (and any day), we can stop pestering them for a while — but not until!

Meanwhile, two of our best Chopin pianists, Evgeny Kissin and Ivo Pogorelich, have released CDs of the four Ballades (Kissin) and the four Scherzi (Pogorelich) so masterful that you can pretty much put any other recordings you have of them away. More remarkably, both recordings represent the pianists' improving on their own work.

When Kissin opened the San Francisco Performances season with the Ballades a few seasons back, the pieces didn't feel quite "done" (though the hall, bad old Masonic Auditorium, and the over-hyped atmosphere of the event itself contributed to the sense of a compromised performance). His interpretations on the new RCA Victor CD are now finished in the best senses of the word. This strange, otherworldly pianist's uncanny ability to take a piece whole, to pluck it out of thin air — to pull sound out of his instrument rather than to



pound it in — has come through on recording before, but never so consistently or satisfyingly as here.

Exemplary of the set as a whole is the F-Major Ballade, where a lingering, rhythmically supremely free articulation of the andantino gives way to fierce cascades of sound — of breathtaking clarity — in the contrasting sections. This is piano-playing at its most spacious and Olympian, with consistently quicksilver responses to each new nuance in the score. His acute performances of the Berceuse and Barcarolle elevate them far above "filler," and the latter, with the requisite sense of lilt but, better, an astonishing feeling for sonic arc, is simply revelatory.



If BMG has recorded his piano better, Kissin's prodigious recording of the E-Major Scherzo might have made it a serious rival to Pogorelich's, but DG's vastly superior recording of the instrument keeps Pogorelich's recording in a class by itself. Although I've long found him the most technically gifted and interesting of today's pianists, and often one of its most arresting interpreters, I went off my feed with him a few years back, when the sheer perversity of his playing, even on record, sent me around the bend. His astonishing recording of Mussorgsky and Ravel last year brought me back, and the new recording of the Scherzi seems to me to mark his return to his playing at its most potent and eloquent.

Pogorelich will always be an extreme interpreter, and the degrees of loud and soft, fast and slow here are as radical as any he has proposed. But the playing is also as integral as it has ever been, and for my taste, the Scherzi have simply never been more fully realized as they are in this thrilling, intensely charged recording. Chopin is simply under-realized when a pianist doesn't revel in the sheer mastery of the writing for the instrument, and Pogorelich's is nothing short of divine play.

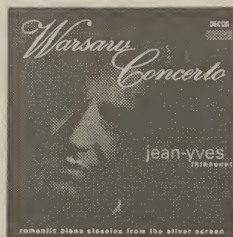
Beyond crossover

A pianist I consistently enjoy live but sometimes find distant in the studio is Jean-Yves Thibaudet. For my taste, his best recording until his two latest releases was his *Conversations with Bill Evans*, which made him stretch and yielded some of his



most sensitive playing. In honor of the Duke Ellington centennial, he has come back with *Reflections on Duke* (Decca), an utterly delectable repast of 14 of the Duke's best piano pieces in new arrangements by five of the best jazz musicologists around. In a single CD, Thibaudet manages to communicate the full range of the late master's artistry, from the finger-twisting to the sexy to the achingly tender. The playing is, if anything, more idiomatic than it was on the Evans CD; this enormously accomplished classical pianist hasn't just crossed over here, he's arrived. This one's likely to stay in your CD player for a while once you give it a spin.

Hard on its heels comes War-



saw Concerto (also Decca), Thibaudet's luscious selection of "romantic piano classics from the silver screen." OK, it's a bit of a cheat. Two of its offerings, the slow movement from Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto and the composer's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*, are re-releases of earlier Thibaudet recordings — but they're fine ones. And the new material — Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, the middle movement of Shostakovich's Second Piano Concerto and Richard Addinsell's "Warsaw Concerto," all with the BBC Symphony under Hugh Wolff — is music-making as idiomatic and ravishing as the Ellington.

A delightful (and uncredited) liner note explains the role of these damp beauties in the movies that used them as scores, and Thibaudet serves them up with a consummate, unashamed sensuality. The title tune is a piece the little-known Addinsell composed as a kind of generic "classic" that subsequently enjoyed its 15 minutes of fame in concert halls, shortly before we all grew up and left Eden. It's nine minutes of pure pastiche that's as seductive today as it was when it made its debut in the forgotten 1941 movie *Dangerous Moonlight*.

It just so happens to be the first piece of "classical music" I ever heard. (*Donne moi un break*; this was in rural South Dakota.) As such, it played no small role in the direction of my life ever since, and hearing it again in a reading as plush as Thibaudet's has been my private oasis — and guilty pleasure — in the desert of all the high-music seriousness of the last month. I simply can't believe that Thibaudet made this decently pleasurable record, and I'll love him forever for it. ▼

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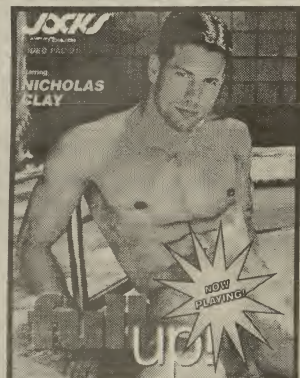
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Setting the record unstraight

Talking with author Lillian Faderman

by Deborah Peifer

To Believe in Women: What Lesbians Have Done for America — A History by Lillian Faderman; Houghton Mifflin, \$30

I confess to being stricken occasionally with erudition envy. The work of a thinker who writes with grace and intellect, whose research is impeccable, and who maintains a healthy sense of humor about herself even as she insists that the work be taken seriously, is a gift that fills me with delight, even if I do turn a little green with the wish that I could do as well.

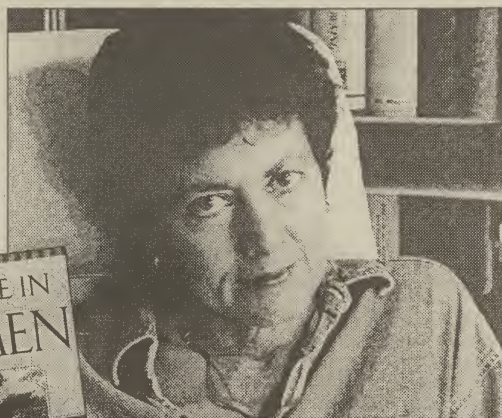
Lillian Faderman is such a scholar. From exceptional ethnic studies (*Speaking for Ourselves, From the Barrio, I Begin My Life*

All Over) to powerful histories of the lesbian communities (*Surpassing the Love of Men, Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers, Chloe Plus Olivia*), Faderman writes gorgeous, thoughtful prose that reminds us of our connectedness to one another. Her newest book, *To Believe in Women: What Lesbians Have Done for America — A History*, is in Faderman's own words, "a book about how millions of American women became what they are now: full citizens, educated, and capable of earning a decent living for themselves. It is also a book about how Americans developed a social conscience and adapted the goals of various reform movements into laws. But it departs from other such histories because it focuses on how certain late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century women whose lives

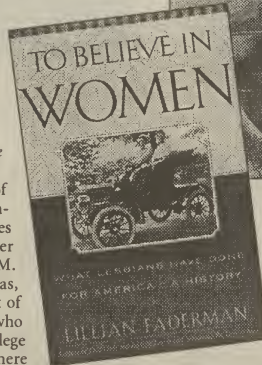
can be described as lesbian were in the forefront of the battle to procure the rights and privileges that large numbers of Americans enjoy today." Now that's a statement of purpose. The remarkable thing is, she does just what she promises. The result is a book that puts lesbians back into the history of progressive movements in this country. It turns out that not only are we everywhere, we were everywhere.

The title of this exceptional book comes from a letter written to M. Carey Thomas, the president of Bryn Mawr, who made the college a place where women could learn more than domestic science. The letter included this memorable observation: "I have forgotten everything I learned at Bryn Mawr, but I still see you standing in chapel and telling us to believe in women." Faderman argues that the pioneers of progressive movements, including, among others, suffragists and settlement workers, doctors and lawyers, were able to devote their boundless energy to important causes because they were not trapped in a heterosexual relationship, with its utter devotion to the male of the household, as well as countless pregnancies. In addition, she argues that these women were sustained, supported and encouraged in their work by their same-sex partners, who often were at the barricades fighting for the same causes.

She charts the relationship of early suffragists Carrie Chapman Catt and Mollie Hay, and quotes the observation of Maud Wood Park: "Mrs. Catt was essentially a statesman; Miss Hay, a politician; and together they were, in most cases, invincible." Faderman traces couple after couple, and quotes from their own letters and diaries in which they make clear that working together, in a committed, loving, sexual relationship, made success inevitable. The belief of these women in the power of their "Boston marriage" is more moving than you might imagine. The courage of these pioneers made possible all the gains that women have made in this century.



Author Lillian Faderman



Legacy work

"Once upon a time, I walked into a lesbian bar," Faderman tells me in a recent interview,

"and I knew who I was." She also knew that she would have to support herself, because being a lesbian precluded being supported by a husband. "The women I talk about in the book left legacies for us, even though many of them had been forgotten. They had made a place for those of us who had to support ourselves."

Faderman's early writing was about other minorities. "I recognized that my interest was in some ways compensation for wanting to write about lesbians," she says. "Thanks to the work of the wonderful lesbian feminists, finally I could write about lesbians." She's been writing about lesbians ever since her first article on the topic was published in 1975. In addition to her own writing and research, Faderman is co-editor, with Larry Gross, of Columbia University Press's *Between Men - Between Women* series. "We both wanted the books in this series to be both academically sound and accessible for the general reader."

With *To Believe...*, Faderman's goals were quite specific. "In my work, I want to do two things: to set the historical record unstraight, and to provide a usable history for lesbians. I wanted to show that these women who loved other women in committed domestic relationships created social change. This is not lesbian chauvinism. Straight, married women couldn't be on the road for ten months, they couldn't attend meetings five nights a week. Victorian women couldn't do the

kinds of things that lesbians could." They were too busy with all those children and those demanding husbands.

"These relationships were regarded as healthy. After all, how could women have sexual lives? And when they were regarded as healthy, people did not understand what this independence could do to the status quo," Faderman says. With the advent of the sexologists, chillingly reported in the book, these loving relationships were pathologized, made suspect. "Love between persons of the same sex had become so pathologized, first by the experts' and then within the popular culture, that even a hint of it met with opprobrium."

I ask Faderman what might have happened had Freud and his fellows like Kraft-Ebing and Havelock Ellis not created the specter of sexual perversion. She suggests that "even without them, as more women succeeded in the professions and became independent, there would have been a social reaction by men. All the talk of eugenics and race suicide — the fear that WASP women would go to college and not reproduce while non-WASPs were reproducing in record numbers, or so it was believed — made the reaction inevitable. Although women-loving women were stigmatized, the sexologists also created a name, and an identity. Women could name themselves and find one another." We'll never know how many women were frightened away by the name, or how many found themselves.

To Believe in Women is the book that every lesbian must read this year. Faderman gives us foremothers to be proud of, a history that is vibrant, rich, and glorious, and she does it with prose that is not just readable, it's entertaining and compelling. It is no longer a secret that there were elders whose legacies to women were the vote, higher education, entrance into the professions — whose legacy to America was a social conscience, and who can be claimed as lesbians' heroes as well as America's heroes." These women made the second wave of feminism and the gay and lesbian revolution not only possible, but inevitable. Thanks to historians like Lillian Faderman, we know that women-loving women changed the world. We owe it to them to keep on loving, and to change the world some more. ▼

Lillian Faderman reads at MCC, 150 Eureka, June 30 at 7:30 p.m.

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TELEVISION

Friends of Dorothy

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Summertime, and the viewing is sleazy. June may be Pride Month for queers, but as most TV viewers know all too well, the networks have no pride — queer or otherwise. As a consequence, if you want to see new and riveting TV during rerun season, expect to get a night job so you can spend your days at home tuned in to *Jerry Springer*, *Montel*, *Jenny Jones* (oh we know, hiss, hiss), et al. For reasons too esoteric to discuss, we tuned in to Jerry for a few days running simply to check out the most recent ruckus over his show (staged fights and foul language — oh please, we've seen worse on

the floor of the Capitol). We wanted to go on vacation, but this was the next best thing to doing a bus tour or joining the carnival (something we always wanted to do in our extreme youth — those trapeze artists strapped into leather harnesses and hanging by their hair are *such* a turn-on. And of course, the sequins, the sequins...)

So for those of you who would never watch anything so ickily crass and low rent as *Springer* (yes, and you never buy *The National Enquirer* or fuck on the first date, either), we're here to report on our fact-finding mission so you needn't sully yourselves. *Springer* has become middle America's queer TV. *Will & Grace* has captured the upscale queer viewer (and a lot of curious hets), but *Springer* is where the *real* queer action is, as they say on those 900-number commercials. No kid in the United States need feel she, he or s/he is the only dyke, fag, bi, tranny or drag queen anymore — just tune in to *Springer*, where every other guest exposes her or his hidden secret.

The guests come out (no pun intended, really) innocently — and heterosexually — enough. Our random sampling found the most common exposé (and we do mean exposé) was a black tranny informing hir macho black boyfriend that s/he was really (drum roll please) a man. Now pardon our apparent naiveté, as we were born with entirely different equipment and bought the rest at the Pleasure Chest and Eve's Garden, but if we recall our high school health classes and Mae West *bon mots* accurately, some physical accouterments cannot be disguised with false eyelashes and extensions. These disclosures tend to lead to hair-pulling, name-calling, unpleasant commentary on sexual prowess, and sometimes a flurry of fisticuffs as the *real* man expresses his horror at being duped by a "he-she" or "fag." Are we really expected to believe these boys didn't know whom they were bedding until they walked onto Jerry's stage? One clue for all those boys out there who just can't believe there's more than two genders — if your girlfriend is six four in flats, has a deeper voice than you, and uses Nair on her chest, chances are...

The second most frequent disclosure is the wife who must tell her husband she's having an affair — *with another woman*. There are so many of these, we wonder if any women in America aren't

doing the girl next door. The husband always makes the mistake of demanding "it's her or me." Since he's invariably an oafish trucker while the gal-pal's a sexy stripper, you can imagine how this usually goes.

And finally, we have the wife who thought hubby just hung out with the boys a tad more than most — and she was right, sort of. It just wasn't the kind of hanging out she imagined. Apparently Kinsey was wrong — if *Springer* is any indicator, there are more queers in Middle America than there are Baptists. Which is certainly something to celebrate for Pride Month.

Speaking of which, we aren't sure if NBC has some hidden homosexual agenda, but even

though it's rerun season, NBC has just unveiled a slew of new homo promos for *Will & Grace* which are as gay as one gets (outside the *Springer* studio). Jack (Sean Hayes), flamer du jour, stars in each one. Meanwhile, they are running *W&G* on two nights (think of it as a queer *Dateline*). Are they telling us something? We hope so...

Judy Pride

And speaking of flaming, when RuPaul is the guest star on CBS's top-rated Saturday-night-at-the-fisticuffs show, *Walker, Texas Ranger*, the cognitive dissonance leaves us breathless. Which is why we need the calming influence of PBS's *In the Life* for a meal of traditional GLBT on rye, hold the mayo pride. The Pride episode, airing next week, starts out with a tribute to Judy Garland, midwife of the Stonewall Riots. Full of fabu clips of Judy (yes, of course she sings "The Man that Got Away," PBS knows



Judy Garland

its classics), interviews with Lorna Luft, Jimmy James, Lypsinka and other famed Garland impersonators, interesting tidbits of revisionist history from the guys plugging their new boxed set of Judy, Judy, Judy, and the revelation for those who've been living on another planet that "Friends of Dorothy" is code for being queer (you know, like drawing half a fish in the dirt was a secret sign for early Christians — oh fine, we are too esoteric). There's also a

disturbing impersonation of Garland by Lea DeLaria — the less said about that, the better.

This being *In the Life*, there's the usual *Leave It To Beaver* (see what happens when you listen to DeLaria?) style of queer pride stories — a hotline for suicidal queer teens, two gay boys talking about their animal sanctuary, spotlight on Pulitzer Prize-winning dyke playwright Paula Vogel, and an uplifting look at Stonewall 25 (which is a lot different from what we remember, and we were there).



Reverend Irene Monroe

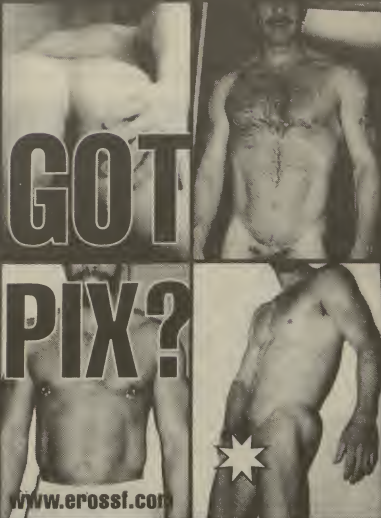
There's also a profile of an African American lesbian theologian, Rev. Irene Monroe. We took back the streets with Stonewall, now Monroe wants us to take back the Bible. A doctoral fellow at Harvard Divinity School being mentored by the provocative Rev. Peter Gomes (who, if there were any justice or taste, would have won this year's Lambda Literary Award for his beautiful book of sermons instead of merely being a finalist), Monroe will knock your socks off. Author of the controversial essay *The Farrakhan Factor*, in which she lambasts the black clergy (and Louis Farrakhan in particular) for their homophobia, Monroe isn't your run of the mill demagogue. This episode of *In the Life* is worth seeing for Garland, an established icon, and Monroe, soon to become one.

Now, we aren't sure if Sharon Stone qualifies as a queer icon despite her AIDS work and playing lezzie with Anne and Ellen, but she's certainly one of the only women on the big screen who still looks and acts like a movie star (like a star, not an actress — we do want to make that distinction). On a recent episode of *The Tonight Show*, Jay Leno requested that she give a rendition of the talent that cinched her first beauty contest win back in Crawford County, Pennsylvania 20-odd years ago. She recited the Gettysburg Address while the Battle Hymn of the Republic played in the background. Stone may only play queers in the movies, but this was a camp classic worthy of any Fourth of July drag show.

Finally, for those of you who can't contain your deep desire to revisit your youth through teen TV, the WB is rerunning the queer episodes of *Dawson's Creek* in upcoming weeks, so set those VCRs. Meanwhile, on *Sunset Beach*, teen vixen Amy threatened to tell Sean and Emily that macho Brad cried over the queer episode of *DC* if he didn't help her in her schemes. We so love it when art imitates life. Happy Pride to all friends of Dorothy. ▼

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OUT&ABOUT



A Community of Perpetual Exuberance — photographs by Ed Conley from the Easter '99 Castro Street party honoring the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. On exhibit at Josie's (16th St. at Market) through July 31.

Calendare by Mark Mardon

Pistol poppin' fun

Chances are that, as you read this, Pride Weekend swirls dizzily all around you. The phrase "over the top" holds no meaning during this period — the queer multitudes will push beyond all limits, engorging on Pride™ like drunken teenagers at a dorm party.

Sanity takes a vacation this time of year, and so, you think, should you. Maybe a nice quiet retreat to the Sierras?

You needn't go so far. As the Pride flood recedes, a city soaked with fading delirium will develop little pools of calm at cozy places like Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint. Step inside: feel the joys of intimacy.

Such an oasis will occur at Josie's starting Tuesday, June 29, when two fresh-faced, slim-bodied gay boys from New Orleans, **Pistol Pete** and **Poppun Paul**, settle in for a six-night gig. The duo play homocore folk music with a dab of glam, stirred up with considerable charm and a refreshing down-home stage banter. These boys, Pete Sturman and Paul Cowgill, are like kissing cousins on the family farm, sweet with smiles, infectious with charm, gifted with golden voices.

"Paul and I are such good friends and have such respect for each other," says Sturman, "there's a magical bond that happens and people feel it."

In their presence, you'll feel like family hanging out on the front porch on a warm night, after the crickets start chirping. You'll melt into the duo's off-beat, eclectic array of original songs.

"There's a lot of gospel and early rock 'n' roll in our material," Sturman says, along with "torchy cabaret stuff, almost Broadway." Their folksiness calls to mind the hit duo Romanovsky and Phillips, whose queer harmonies and lyrics profoundly shaped early homocore music in the 1980s.

"They influenced me," Sturman admits, "but people who hear us realize we're different. It's a different decade. We're a '90s sound."

As a special treat for San Franciscans, the duo has invited local boy music wonder **Garrin Benfield** to take a turn on stage, serenading and guitar playing in his gorgeously intricate, often lilting style. Benfield, just returned from the Telluride Bluegrass Festival, met Sturman in New Orleans during Mardi Gras; the two hit it off, and the friends will soon be sharing their good spirits and distinctive music with all of us Pride-weary, just-plain-queer folks. ▼

Pistol Pete & Poppun Paul play 8pm Tuesday-Thursday, June 29-July 1 and July 6-8 at Josie's, 16th St. at Market. 861-7933.



Pistol Pete and Poppun Paul

Fri 25

Metropolitan Community Church

"Red Hearts," a social meeting and potluck for American Indian gays, lesbians, bisexuals and their friends. Bring something to share. An alcohol-free event. Sponsored by Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits. 7-10pm. 1500 Eureka St. Info: 282-4176.

A Different Light

Bungaku Ito, publisher of the Japanese queer journal *Barazoku*, published since 1971, speaks on the gay movement in Japan. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Stormy Leather

Kickoff poetry and funk reading for the dyke journal *anteup*. Refreshments on hand. Free. 7-9pm. 1158 Howard St. (at 7th). Info: 733-8555.

Jon Sims Center

"Faggot Ann & Andy at the Wishing Well," a love duet performed by JUHA, a new multi-cultural arts group that takes its name from a character in Arabic fairy tales. The story is of two little Palestinian boys in love, and their world of wishes made on coins. Featuring Ghalib El-Khalidi and Collin Clay. Directed by Ariel Wisley-Gopp. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8:30pm. 1519 Mission St. Info: 821-9253.

SPMOMA

Opening: a major survey of video art by Bill Viola, who is widely recognized as the leading figure in his field. The 25-year survey includes 40 works created by Viola between 1972 and 1996, including 15 large-scale video installations, immersing visitors in direct and personal experiences of image and sound. In conjunction with off-site installations, including one at Grace Cathedral. \$8 (\$5 seniors; \$4 students). Daily (except Wed) thru 9/12. 10am-6pm (till 9pm Thu). San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third St. 357-4000.

Piaf's

Raven Snook is your "Designated Diva" in this evening of outrageous music and comedy detailing the confessions of a drag queen trapped in a woman's body. \$10 cover (dinner seating available). 10pm. Also on 6/26 (8pm & 10pm) and 6/27. Piaf's restaurant and cabaret. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). Reservations: 864-3700.

Josie's

Gay Comedy Pride Weekend roars in with comic geniuses Danny Williams, Karen Ripley and Board of Supervisors Prez Tom Ammiano. \$10. 8pm & 10pm. Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 16th St. at Market. 861-7933.

Club Paradise

Bay Area bisexuals celebrate GLBT Pride at the Fourth Annual Fencesters Ball. Featuring a fashion show by Stormy Leather and ticket give-aways to "Don't Tell Anyone," screening at the Castro on Sat., 6/26. With DJs Al G and Bishop. \$7 cover. 9pm-2am. 21+ w/D. 1028 Geary St. (btwn. Van Ness & Polk). Info: 707-2876.

Bottom of the Hill

San Francisco's premiere queer rock band Pansy Division plays a Gay Pride Weekend gig along with Olympia, Washington's The Need. Also appearing: The Knockups, and Ing. \$7. 21+ w/D. 1233 17th St. at Texas St. Info: 621-4455.

Sat 26

Golden Gate Park

The San Francisco FrontRunners hold their 20th Annual Pride Run/Walk. The USATF-certified and sanctioned 5K and 10K course starts at the south end of the Polo Field. The course is on asphalt, with gently rolling hills. Award to top female and male finishers. Awards ceremony and potluck

picnic after the run in the Polo Field. Funds go to PFLAG and LYRIC. Entry fee: \$25 (\$20 members of FrontRunners). Info: 978-2429.

Kite Hill

Join neighbors in a work party to restore and clean up Kite Hill Open Space, one of only three remaining natural grassland open spaces in SF. Overlooking the Castro from its perch at the top of 19th St. (at Yukon), the hill has become choked with non-native plants such as fennel and radish that must be removed. 9am-12 noon. Info: Mary Mitchell, (650) 712-9519.

Civic Center

"Stand Against Hate," a rally against anti-gay violence, launches the Pride Celebration. Join Community United Against Violence in standing up to homophobia. Includes live performance by local gay music duo Mark and Dean. Noon-1:30pm. Main Stage (in front of City Hall).

SF Art Institute

"A Celebration of the Life of Poet/Filmmaker James Broughton," featuring a special memorial composition by composer Lou Harrison, plus screenings of Broughton films and tributes by friends and notables. Come early to insure seating. Free. 1-4pm (doors open at noon). 800 Chestnut St.

Old First Church

Celebrated author Anne Lamott (*Traveling Mercies*, *Operating Instructions*, *Bird by Bird*) does a benefit reading to support the full inclusion of gay and lesbian people in the life and leadership of the Presbyterian Church (USA). \$25 (\$100 including reception). 8pm. Old First Presbyterian Church, 1751 Sacramento St. (at Van Ness). 522-9844.

Jon Sims Center

"Raw," a Butoh benefit performance showcasing the talents of Bay Area artists Collapsing Silence, Molly Barrons, Flesh & Blood Mystery Theater and Kionji Hayashi. Funds support Japanese Butoh dancer Yuri Nagao's workshop and performances in the Bay Area. \$8-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Studio 3, the Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th & S. Van Ness). 682-0445.

A Different Light

Celebrated Hawaiian cabaret artist Matt Yee signs his new CD, "Every Facet of My Heart." Free. 1pm.

California Pacific Medical Center

Alternative Treatments Education Network presents "A Gift of Healing" with Momma Lucas, who will do laying-on-of-hands on each person individually. Free. 1-4pm. Gazebo Room. Located at Castro & Duboce. 284-6237.

Mark I. Chester Studio

Male figure-drawing session, open to sketchers of all skill levels, featuring classical nude modeling by African American model/bodybuilder James Cooper in an intimate home studio. 1:30-4:30pm. 1229 Folsom St. Reservations: 621-6294.

Il Pirata

"Dum Dum Diga Diga TriKone

Dance," hosted by TriKone, a nonprofit organization for LGBT South Asians (South Asia includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Tibet). Featuring DJ Xpinoza spinning a fun and sexy mix of Bollywood beats with San Francisco treats. \$10 suggested (NATFLOF). 10pm-2am. 21+ w/D. 2007 16th St. (near Potrero Ave.). Info: 789-7322.

Glama-Rama!

Opening reception: photography by Tom Pitts, including some of his work on naughty, mean girls and updated Bible stories (Monica Lewinsky as Eve: she put the 'temp' in temptation). Pitts has been doing fashion and fine-art portraits for some 14 years. His work has appeared in *Spin*, *Rolling Stone*, *Detour*, and elsewhere. Free. 6-9pm. 417 South Van Ness Ave. at 15th St.

Josie's

Gay Comedy Pride Weekend continues with comedians Danny Williams and Karen Ripley joined by iconoclast Scott Capurro. Also introducing New Orleans gay troubadours Pistol Pete and Poppun Paul. \$10. 8pm & 10pm.

Dolores Park

"It's A Movement, Not A Market," the 7th annual San Francisco Dyke March. Live performance begins at 4pm, featuring Sini Anderson & Michelle Tea of Sister Spit, rap artist Nidoubeki, SF Drag King 1999 "Barrie White," dancers, and much more. Plus MCs/comedians Fairy Butch, Page Hurwitz, and Charlene Tapia. Rally at 7pm, and march at 7:40pm through the streets to the Castro. Party in the Castro begins at 9pm. Expect some 40,000 women. Keynote speech by Urvasi Vaid. Special guest Ruth Ellis (a 100-year-old dyke). All women welcome. Men are invited to cheer the Dyke March from the sidewalk. Info: 241-8882.

Paradise Lounge

"Girl Fest," featuring the city's best girl bands, including Tribe 8, Fabulous Disaster, Dirtbox, U-Core, The Pre-teens, Lisa Dewey, and Glitter Mini 9, plus spoken word by Lynne Breedlove, LEN Plass, Sista Snatch, Rae Lynn, Michelle Tea, and many others. \$8. Doors open 8:30pm. 308 11th St. (at Folsom). Info: 831-476-2455.

Phoenix Hotel

"PrideSPASH/s/," a chance to lounge around the pool, catch some rays, see who's new in town, enjoy exotic fruit drinks and enjoy the sounds of DJ Michael Tank, spinning in the courtyard from noon to 6pm. Bring your towel and make yourself queerly at home just two blocks from the Pride Festival at Civic Center. \$12 door (free to Hotel guests). Info: (888) 558-1791.

City Hall

"ReUNION@City Hall," the official Saturday Pride Party, presented by Noble Beat Productions. Featuring DJs Rob Davis (Sydney Mardi Gras) and David Knapp (White Party). Lighting design by Allan Parkinson (Sydney Mardi Gras). Décor by Gilbert Baker (creator of the rainbow flag). Expect more than 2,500 celebrants under the lavishly restored rotunda. Benefits GLBT voter registration project. \$40 (\$50 at door, if available). Includes after-hours party (2-8am) at the End Up (free shuttle). Tix at Mainline Gifts, Undercover, and Hot Cookie in the Castro. Info: 674-1214.

174 King St.

"Futura" hosts San Francisco's official Latino Gay Pride Party, featuring CD release celebrations for Christian



Gay pop-music duo Mark and Dean kick off the "Stand Against Hate" rally at Pride '99 in Civic Center. See Saturday.

"Lot's Daughters," along with other twisted fashion photography by Tom Pitts, will be on display at Glama-Rama! See Saturday.



Castro (*Mi Vida Sin Tú Amor*) and Los Tri-O (*Nuestro Amor*). With special guest Armando from LA's Arena, plus DJs Rubin & Eduardo. T-shirt, CD and poster giveaway. \$12. 10pm-3am. 21+ w/ID. Info: 665-6715.

177 Townsend

Club Universe holds its giant Gay Pride dance with special guest DJ Tedd Patterson of New York along with house DJs Jamie J and David Harness. \$12. 9:30pm-7am. Info: 289-6650.

Maritime Hall

"White Heat White Light," a techno tribal ritual celebration presented by Anon Salon and Radio V in association with D7, Blue Room, EyePhunk, Zavtone, Ceiba Records and Verbum. Featuring live electronic-music bands including Lost At Last (Maui's ethno-trance whizzes), Bufo (SF's techno-trance force), and Kode IV, with DJ Adam Ohana. Plus performance art with Journey of the Eternal Return, AWD, Earth Circus, Art of Spirit, and Galactic Dreamspell. Visuals by Dimension 7. Wear white. \$15 advance (from www.ticketweb.com). 10pm-4am. 18+ w/ID. 450 Harrison St. Info: 777-9199.

Sun 27

Pride Parade & Celebration

"Proud Heritage, Powerful Future" is the theme of the 29th annual San Francisco Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Pride Parade and Celebration. The Parade begins at 10:30am at Market and Beale streets and ends at Market and 8th streets. A moment of silence will be held at noon to remember the victims of violence and those who have died from breast cancer and HIV/AIDS. Grand Marshal Harry Hay, 87, presides. After the parade, join the celebration at Civic Center, kicked off on the main stage by the SF Lesbian & Gay Freedom Band at 12:01pm.

Green Room

Living Sober presents its Parade Day Dance, hosted by gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender members of AA. Open to all members of AA & AI-Anon. \$10-\$15 suggested (NO-TAFLOF). 4-7pm (preceded by AA meeting at 3pm). War Memorial Bldg., 401 Van Ness Ave.

Sigmund Stern Grove

Michael Tilson Thomas conducts the San Francisco Symphony in a concert of brilliant showpieces by Igor Stravinsky and Aaron Copland. Free. 2pm. Arrive early to stake out a picnic spot or bench seat. 19th Ave.

at Sloat Blvd. Info: 252-6252.

Venue 9

Footloose presents "The Pre-Millennium Comedy Laugh-Out," featuring comedians Harmon Leon, Kurt Weitzmann, Dan Rothenberg, and Robert Mac, plus special guests Bridget Schwartz, Al Madrigal and others. \$6-\$10 sliding. 8:30pm. 252 9th St. (at Folsom). 289-2000.

Mon 28

Noh Space

Theatre of Yugen presents Tokyo-based dancer/choreographer Eri Majima's "Migiwa — Water's Edge," an evening of contemporary Japanese dance based on the Butoh aesthetic. \$8-\$12 sliding. 8pm. Also on 6/29. 2840 Mariposa St. at Project Artaud (btwn. Florida & Alabama streets). 621-7978.

Josie's

Open Mic Gay Comedy continues its Monday night tradition with comic host Scott Capurro. \$5. 8pm. No reservations required.

Tue 29

A Different Light

Dean Kostos reads from *The Sentence that Ends with a Comma*, a collection of poems from the author of *Celestial Rust*. Free. 7:30pm.

Stephen Wirtz Gallery

Hospitality House, San Francisco's only fine-arts studio for homeless and at-risk individuals in the Tenderloin, hosts its 14th Annual Art Auction, featuring artwork donated by prominent artists and galleries, as well as by artists from its Community Arts Program. \$20 admission. Prices for artwork expected to range from \$150 to \$7,000 per work. 49 Geary St., 3rd floor. Info: 749-2181.

Wed 30

Metropolitan Community Church

Lillian Faderman reads from *To Believe in Women*, a look at some of the famous women whose lesbianism may have facilitated their accomplishments. Co-sponsored by A Different Light Bookstore. Free. 7:30pm.

Venue 9

"Videopoes," the Nomad Videofilm Festival, devoted to experimental video, film and computer media. See

original, non-commercial videofilms under 12 minutes each, curated from entries worldwide. For complete program notes, surf: www.verticalpool.com. \$6-\$10 sliding. 8pm. Also on 7/1. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Folsom & Howard). 289-2000.

Thu 1

A Different Light

Holy Titclamps, the infamous queer zine, celebrates its 10th anniversary and the release of its 17th issue and Participants include editor Larry-bob and writers Brian Bouldrey, Robert Gluck, Michael Layne Heath, Kevin Killian, and Edward Mycue. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Mad Magda's

"Sottovoice," an intimate Salon of story. Featuring Jeffrey Hartgraves reading from *Shark Bytes*, a solo-performance comedy/drama, and Laraine Herring reading from *Monsoons*, her new collection of fiction and poetry from Duality Press. Free. 7-8:30pm. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room & Cafe, 579 Hayes St.

The Swallow

Juanda Stafford headlines in a night of cabaret, jazz, R&B and contemporary song, with Larry O'Leno on piano. 9:30pm. 1750 Polk St. (at Washington). Info: 775-4152.

Theater Rhinoceros

"Killing My Lobster Loves a Parade," comedic vignettes for the frequently flummoxed. New sketches connect surprise parties for doctors in surgery, families who only wear clogs, combat-safety demonstrations at Renaissance Fairs & Auto Show, and lots more. With the Rock Lobster Orchestra. \$10. Thurs-Sun thru 7/18. 8pm. 2926 16th St. (near S. Van Ness). 267-0642.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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Pink Narcissus

◀ Arts cover

straint over one element: pretty boy Bobby Kendall is not allowed to express any emotion or thought. Not only does the film's central obsession not speak; he doesn't smile or wink or exhibit any overt signs of subjectivity other than occasionally move his eyes. He's as close to a still photographer's model as a motion picture actor can get. Never has a lead actor been seen so much and allowed to do so little; not even Keanu Reeves is in this league.

Quintessentially the "pink Narcissus," the gay boy enamored of his own reflection, Bobby is his own object of worship only in the most double-bind sense, his self-infatuation existing only as display. Long, drawn-out shots of him ecstatically dewy-eyed on green grass are nonetheless arresting in their enforced naïveté, the sort of thing nearly impossible to pull off even in the most hopeful of times, and unthinkable now.

Bobby's impassive persona is further multiplied in a number of fairy tale scenarios involving terrors, bikers, decadent Romans,

and Arabian princes in quasi-choreographed sequences that irrevocably blur the boundary between art and pornography. The film's genius consists in its inability to definitively distinguish between aesthetic and erotic pleasures.

'Faggot fudge'

Writing about *Pink Narcissus* in *Screening the Sexes* (1972), pioneer queer critic Parker Tyler hedged his bets:

"I don't wish to flatter what is mainly only ultrarich faggot fudge, ludicrously embarrassing, but the truth is that the erotic effects and the camera work occasionally, aided by music, become the vehicles of genuine plastic imagination and true poetic mood."

While noting that both "lapses of taste and taste, alike" are part of the film's charm, Parker doesn't have sufficient distance on his own period to perceive "lapses of taste" as being in and of themselves aesthetic criteria. We are by now, perhaps, too far removed from any standard of good taste to credit his concern for its absence, but he repeats his objection that "despite touches of taste, the film as a whole is almost self-con-

sciously ridiculous, outdoing any other homo parlor charade for opulence of effect within narrow spaces and gaudy allure for the optical palate."

One is tempted to say that Mr. Tyler's own writing style seems, like the film he can only half-praise, concocted of equal parts passionate sincerity and rigid ornament, verbal sophistication and emotional naïveté — in a word, *queer*. Nor is his use of the epithet *ridiculous* lost on anyone familiar with Charles Ludlam's Ridiculous Theatrical Company, which adopted that insult as an aesthetic principle.

Bidgood's aesthetic, like Ludlam's, extends beyond the erotic body and its adventures in Wonderland to the corrupting world without. Bobby's soft-edged boudoir is contrasted with the commercial solicitations of some fanciful New York City neon, underscored by daytime radio squawk. Later, an expressionistic street scene features a guy jerking off while his hot dog drips mustard near a vendor's sign reading "Get It While You're Hot." This pullulating sample of street life remains onscreen long enough to tease us with a significance never made explicit, but obvious enough to anyone who's lived in a big city.

Now that the gay lifestyle can be pursued as a variation on the capitalist theme, and films of many nations are touting the interchangeable charms of comely gay and straight corporate characters, *Pink Narcissus* may seem like a hideous throwback to a



Bobby Kendall in cult film *Pink Narcissus*

closeted era where the only queer option was make-believe. Some viewers will squirm and walk out on this fruity, fairy, frothy, rococo, ridiculous, redundant display. Others will see in these 70 overdone minutes a demonstration of the lost art of self-indulgence.

The artificial color, the kitsch decor, the ripeness of the lead object, the fairy tale magic of the scenes — the sincere, self-conscious beauty of everything in

view — remind us there's an alternative to realism, to drag, to drama by demographics, to assimilation into the mainstream and its corollary, the commodification of our sexual appetites. There's art for art's sake. ▼

Pink Narcissus plays the SFILGFF on Saturday, June 26 at 9:30 p.m. at the Victoria Theatre.

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Ideal Husband

◀ page 82

It all makes for soft-spoken lies and incisive drawing-room asides in the most polite of social circumstances. This is Oscar Wilde, after all, so one can expect a surfeit of insight and zingers. And one would have to be without all senses to miss his relevance to modern politics and the art of deception. Director and screen adapter Oliver Parker didn't encumber the movie with winking references to the 1990s. The story, in full period finery, holds together without any cute updates.

In this translation from stage to screen, some flavor has been lost. This is Wilde lite, and a vision sunnier than his text would suggest. Lady Chiltern's character is morally rigid, and so faces a horrible crisis when she realizes that her ideal husband is in fact a fraud. Here is a dramatic set-up loaded with possibilities — it seems the holier-than-thou character has to keep her principles or

her husband, but not both. In this version, her dilemma is passed over rather lightly. And Chiltern's agonizing realization that his life's work may evaporate with one destructive act is likewise polished of its full feeling. Everything here is safely contained. One longs for moments of directorial flourishes and acting abandonment as was found in Ang Lee's *Sense and Sensibility*, another British period piece loaded with wit and meaty acting.

Speaking of acting, three-fifths of the handsome principal cast are superb. The two weak links, Northam and Driver, aren't fatal. Northam simply fails to fill the screen or possess the requisite hollow charm necessary for the role. More debilitating is Driver. She strikes anti-chemistry with Everett, and her lantern jaw and shrill line deliveries make her performance a trial of no small magnitude.

Blanchett is appropriately reserved and stately as Lady Chiltern, but the bouquets belong to Everett and Moore. Everett has long had a sublime ability to com-

municate directly to his audience, so we feel in on his joke. His wry and dry way with a line is perfect for Wilde, and he is matched at every heartbeat by Moore.

I'm ready, here and now, to declare Moore the most exciting film actress to come of age in the '90s. She can be forgiven those big paycheck movies (*Nine Months*, *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*). She has, after all, bills to pay. Nearly everything she does is indelible. There was the blow-drying pantless yuppie of *Short Cuts*, *Uncle Vanya* on 42nd Street, the poisoned housewife of *Safe*, the coked-up surrogate mother of *Boogie Nights*, and the half-wit who has the last laugh in *Cookie's Fortune*. Of course, Mrs. Cheveley is the kind of role any resourceful actress would tear into with talons slashing, and Moore relishes her venality. When Mrs. Cheveley reminds Chiltern of the "loathsome joy" the press would have at his exorcism, it is Moore who makes us feel her own joy at being given a role so luxuriously malicious. Wilde would be amused. ▼

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*NNRTI - non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor.

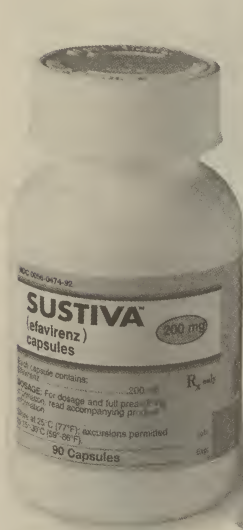
For more information on SUSTIVA, call 1-800-4PHARMA or visit our website at <http://www.sustiva.com>. For more information on the updated DHHS Guidelines, a PDF file of the guidelines is available at <http://www.hivatis.org>.

1. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), December 1998.

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Once Daily SUSTIVA[™] efavirenz

SUSTIVA[™] (efavirenz) capsules Patient Information about SUSTIVA[®] (sus-TEE-vah) for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection Generic name: efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)

Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz)
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA:**

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA:**

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

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DuPont Pharmaceuticals

Wilmington, DE 19880
Issued September, 1998

FILM

One butch woman

New biography of film star Marie Dressler

by Tavo Amador

Film buffs remember Marie Dressler as Carlotta Vance, an aging actress in gay director George Cukor's classic 1933 comedy, *Dinner at Eight*, in which she got billed ahead of John Barrymore, Wallace Beery, Jean Harlow, and Lionel Barrymore. They also know she won a Best Actress Oscar for her performance as Wallace Beery's brawling wife in 1931's *Min and Bill*, in which, as Matthew Kennedy says in his highly readable biography, *Marie Dressler* (McFarland Press, \$40), she is "one butch woman."

Few know, however, of the uneven road Dressler traveled before reaching movie superstardom in her sixties. At her death in 1934, she was Hollywood's leading female box-office attraction. My *Bay Area Reporter* colleague Kennedy has successfully reclaimed Dressler's extraordinary theatrical life.

She was born Leila Marie Koberer in Cobourg, Ontario, Canada, most probably in 1868. She had rudimentary schooling, but innate wisdom. Early on, she accepted herself as being a big, homely girl, so she attracted attention by making people laugh. By 14, she was barnstorming with companies in Canada and America. She flirted with operetta, but found her forte in broad comedy and vaudeville sketches.

Prior to World War I, Dressler had two decades of successful Broadway appearances in now forgotten shows like *The Lady Slavery* and *Higgledy-Piggly*. She worked with legendary stars like Lillian Russell, Eddie Foy, and Weber and Fields. Her greatest success came in *Tillie's Nightmare*, which Mack Sennett insisted she film as *Tillie's Punctured Romance* (1914). Charlie Chaplin co-starred as her reluctant suitor, drawn to the homely and domineering Tillie because she is rich, but dreaming of marrying poor, beautiful Mabel Normand. The movie was an enormous hit, but subsequent films reprising Tillie and two for Samuel Goldwyn failed, so Dressler returned to the stage.

She commanded huge sums of money and spent it lavishly on her family and friends, often investing unwisely. Despite her fame and earnings, she was rarely free of financial anxiety.

Strike support

In 1917, Dressler supported the chorus-girl strike, which led to the establishment of Actors Equity, and which earned her the enmity of most producers. Work grew scarce, and by 1926 her situation was desperate. According to her memoirs, she planned suicide on the night director Alan Dwan offered her a tiny part in his movie, *The Joy Girl* (1927). Then MGM screenwriter Frances Marion, to whom Dressler at the height of her fame had been kind, came to the rescue.

Marion fashioned a script from a novel about Irish-Americans, *The Callahans and the Murphys*, and convinced Irving Thalberg that it would make a great vehicle for comic star Polly Moran and Dressler as matriarchs of feuding clans. Thalberg agreed to pay her \$2,500 per week. The film offended the Irish, however, and was withdrawn. But Marion got Dressler a part in a movie version

of the popular comic strip *Bringing Up Father* (1928), also with Moran, and in Marion Davies' *The Patsy* (1928).

With no more film offers, she accepted Edward Everett Horton's invitation to join his Los Angeles stock company, but talkies demanded experienced stage actors, and in a rare bit of unprofessionalism, Dressler left Horton the moment movies called her back for *The Divine Lady* (1929). (Horton understood and held no grudge.) That same year, she and Moran co-starred again in *Dangerous Females*, and Dressler supported Rudy Vallee in *The Vagabond Lover*. MGM asked her to spoof Venus Rising from the Sea in the all-star *Hollywood Revue of 1929* (which featured Norma Shearer's first attempt as Shakespeare's Juliet, Joan Crawford doing the screen's first audible tap dance while singing "Gotta Feeling For You," and Marion Davies, Crawford, and the rest of

the cast introducing "Singin' in the Rain.")

She and Moran re-teamed for *Chasing Rainbows*, but the next one established Dressler as a star: the film version of Eugene O'Neill's *Anna Christie* (1930). Frances Marion got Dressler the part of Marthy, the harriard who welcomes Greta Garbo in the title role. Billed as the movie in which "Garbo Talks," many then (and now) thought Dressler stole the film, although both stars got great reviews, and the public lined up to see it.

She now filmed non-stop and by the time of *Min and Bill* was earning \$5,000 per week. Another Oscar nomination came for *Emma* (1932), and she reteamed with the difficult Beery in *Tugboat Annie* (1933). After *Dinner at Eight*, she made *Christopher Bean*, billed by MGM as the "World's Greatest Actress." Her death in 1934 was much lamented across the country and within the industry.



Marie Dressler with Wallace Beery in 1933's *Tugboat Annie*

Kennedy writes with wit and has performed remarkable research. His description of the long-gone world of vaudeville and early stage revues shows it was no more sophisticated than most television sitcoms today. He speculates intelligently about the twice-married Dressler's personal life,

concluding that she loved both men and women. My only criticism of the well-illustrated book is with McFarland's decision to publish it two columns to a page, in relatively small print. Still, that's a small inconvenience for such a readable biography of an important if now forgotten star. ▼

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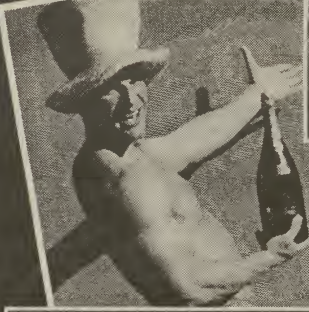
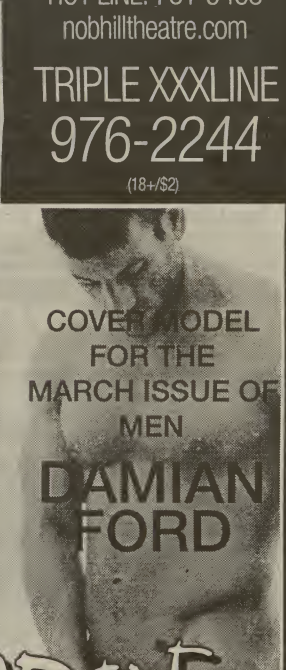
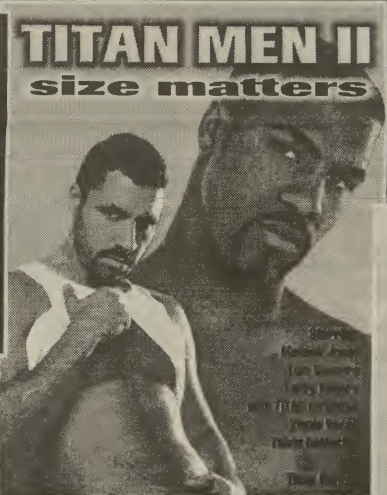
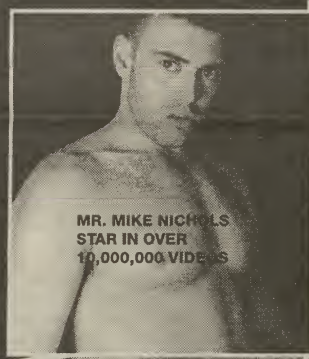
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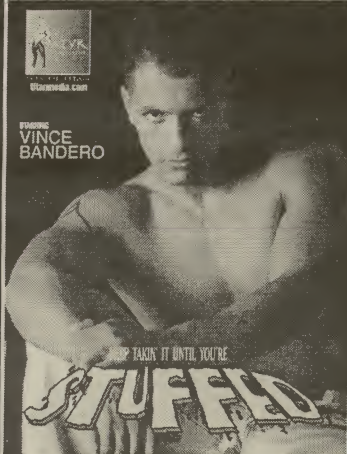
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To donate leather call Lion Tom Rodgers,
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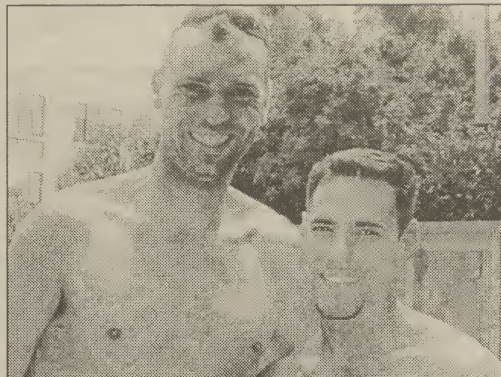
Pride and victory

by Mister Marcus

When the leather contingent steps off in this Sunday's parade, the marchers' hearts will be filled with pride and thankfulness for the strides the leather community has made over these many years. Leaders all around the country have managed to steer the rest of the nation's LGBT communities into an admirable niche. They did so with great fundraising efforts aimed at benefitting the less fortunate, and they have instilled a sense of pride in men and women of younger generations, who might be interested in aligning with the world's least understood subculture.

For San Francisco's leather community, in particular, one cause for celebration is the small victory obtained in abolishing the stringent rules recently enforced by the California Alcoholic Beverage Control with regard to beer busts. The hearing at City Hall last Thursday, June 17, saw more than 40 leather people turn out, several of whom spoke in defense of fundraising beer busts in various bars.

Spearheaded by Supervisor Mark Leno and wholeheartedly supported by Supervisors Newsome and Becerra, the hearing was an opportunity for the District Administrator for ABC, Michael Tyrel, to hear testimony about the beer-



Mr. Russian River Drummer Bauke Ylstra (left) with RR Drummer Boy Marty Epstein, chosen in Guerneville on Sat., June 12.

bust ban. What he learned from the leather community convinced him to reverse the ban imposed on certain leather-oriented bars having beer busts as fundraisers.

"I'm not all that convinced that beer busts or benefits actually raise a lot of money for charity," Tyrel had earlier been quoted as saying — an opinion he obviously changed after hearing several speakers.

So beer busts are back again, the main restriction being that they cannot be advertised as "all you can drink" events. Vigilance for those who have had too much to drink was also emphasized as a condition for lifting the ban.

The practice of banning "all you can drink" beer busts started in Los Angeles County late last year. With luck, gay community leaders in that part of the state will be able to convince their district administrators to do what we have done here in San Fran.

Bare-chested float

The more floats in the Pride Parade, the better, and thank goodness for corporate support. Miller Brewing Company will sponsor a float (position #31) bearing current and past bare-chest calendar men in this year's parade, and the leather contingent

will be marching right behind, so if you want to see Leather Pride, motorcycles, muscles, and a whole lot of in-your-face splendor, get a good spot along the parade route (and get there early!).

After following the parade, check out the celebration area and look for certain leather spots. For instance, The Forum of San Francisco will also have a booth there in Civic Center, with leather organizations from the entire Northern California area represented.

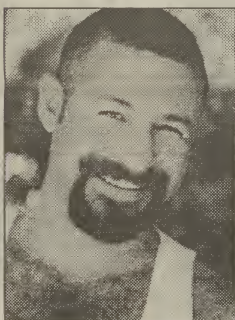
Deaf leather

Last Thursday, June 17, the International Mr. and Ms. Deaf Leather contest was held in New Orleans. There were no female candidates for the position, so there will be no Int'l. Ms. Deaf Leather in the coming year. The winner of the title is Bob Rourke of Alexandria, VA. The first runner-up was that cute Chuck Putvin of Sunnyvale and the second runner-up was Chris Falk of New Orleans.

Int'l Boot Black

In all the hubbub of IML, I overlooked an important aspect of the weekend in not reporting the winner of the International Boot Black competition that is a

next page ►



James S. Geras photographed 12 bare-chest calendar winners for the 2000 calendar. He is world-renowned for his quality work.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, June 24

Eric Keith & Chris, SF Drummer & Boy, present a leather pride kick-off beer party at Daddy's, 2000-2300 with \$1.50 Michelob cups to benefit American Liver Foundation; raffles, 50/50 auction, and answers to your questions about the leather contingent in the parade.

Friday, June 25

The biggie for us, Phoenix Uniform Club Leather & Uniform Ball in the Green Room, War Memorial Bldg. (Van Ness at McAllister), 2000-2400, with City Swing/Gail Wilson. Tix are \$50 in advance at Daddy's, Mister S, Leather Zone Image Leathers, Leathermasters in San Jose, or \$60 at door.

Rubber Shine-Off at Loading Dock, at 2200; bondage demos and intro of a new rubber club in SF. Want more? Click on: www.thepuppycage.com/rubbermens/f

Saturday, June 26

Jito Presents: Freedom SF: An Era Begins, big disco party at The Galleria, 2200 to 0500 Sunday. Tix \$40/Adv, \$45/door. Featuring Na Lei Hula Dance Troupe. Call 642-0803 or click: www.jito.com.

Star-Studded Pride Brunch at Stars (550 Golden Gate Ave), 1130 and the \$75 ducats obtainable by calling 695-1942 or 626-5004. Bubbly and vocals.

Sunday, June 27

Parade Day! You should know where your contin-

gent lines up. Party in Civic Center afterward. Freak Freely! It's our day in SF.

Wednesday, June 30

"Country in the Castro" at The Edge, at 2100, with bargain beer and Margaritas by Mr. IGRA Doug Graff, and featuring singer Charlie Pacheco.

Thursday, July 1

Big Basket Show-Off Show at The Edge, at 2100; prizes, surprises (look for the "growers"), and comedy with Danny Williams and the Old Bag panting.

July 2-4 Weekend

Great Lakes Drummer contest in Columbus, Ohio all weekend, and the 3rd Annual Gathering of Eagles in Philadelphia, by invite.

Sunday, July 4

San Franciscans MC annual beer bust at The Eagle, 1500-1800, \$8, food, party. Celebrate our Independence.

Weekend July 9-11

Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer Contest weekend in Baltimore, contest at Hippo on Sat. night. It's lots of fun. Carl Baldwin and Ryan Goldner will step aside.

Pride Parade in Ottawa, with Leather Pride Party Canadian style by the Ottawa Knights.

The Gay Pride of porn

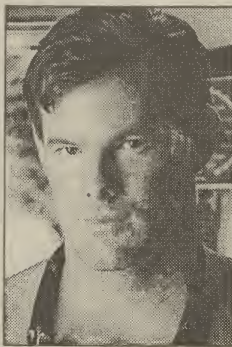
Great white hope Mark Slade

by John F. Karr

West Hollywood Hope is the name of a hospital, of course, but I took the title of the recent Studio 2000 release literally, to mean its star. After all, the studio is forever pinning its hype, er, hope on some new big dick, and this time it's Mark Slade. Yet if Slade is the hope of Studio 2000, they must have a guy named Pangloss in charge. Or at least someone who thinks we'll fall for anybody — any body — with a big dick.

The role of the body this time is played by Mark Slade, a young, big, and super beefy blonde, with a dick as thick as my wrist — well, maybe not my wrist, which is as delicate as a daffodil stalk, but certainly your wrist, which is as thick and manly as a can of Bud. The role of Pangloss is taken by Studio 2000 industry vet Scott Masters, who met Slade at a porn convention, and subsequently asked him to do a JO solo in the video *Billy 2000*, which brings those Billy dolls to life. As a screen test, it's nothing great; Slade doesn't seem to have much personality, but dutifully presents his large club of a dick. And *Billy 2000* is a passably diverting film, despite its inane "plot," in which the cast members are asked to impersonate a product (imagine, porn stars as *product*). It's distinguished for the appropriately dazed impersonations of dolls the stars provide, like Stepford Wives disguised as the Village People. Must be Method Actors, the bunch of 'em.

Anyway, having passed his entry exam, Slade got the star treatment from Studio 2000. His picture is on the box of both *West*



Mark Slade

Hollywood Hope and *Cadet*, and he graduates from solos to duo scenes with two sure-fire bottoms who are current headliners themselves: first, peppy-pricked Kristian Brooks, and then cupcake Ethan Marc.

West Hollywood Hope is a take-off on a television series, and its opening credits expertly mimic the cheesy soap opera style. A regulatory board is investigating the hospital, where strange things are going on: it gives five times the national average of prostate exams!

And sure enough, there's Joey Hart, complaining of a pain in his ass, and Dr. Dean Spencer licking it in close exam. He diagnoses anal tension caused by episodic constrictions, which his therapy will smooth out. Strange, though, that Spencer, who's been so successful on the receiving end of a dildo in many movies, is here so absent and clumsy as the wielder of one.

In Slade's first scene, he mas-

sages Kristian Brooks, who immediately falls asleep, a state of unconsciousness which thankfully doesn't prevent his asshole from gaping open. Now, Slade's no live wire. He's a lumbering pachyderm of a porn star, and it's crippling to provide this Jumbo with an unconscious partner in his premiere duo scene. Someone's got to show some life, and it sure isn't going to be Slade.

Although Brooks gets it up, he never wakes up, and the scene doesn't ignite. Slade sucks Brooks' cock, somewhat gingerly yet not altogether badly, but he only flirts with rimming, rather than actually getting in there snarly and slurpy. He manages to fuck Brooks with a less-than-hard dick, but scores points for masturbating his partner as he fucks him. Slade appears to be a more diligent than enthusiastic performer. You sense he's satisfying his director rather than satiating his desire. Perhaps if his partner were awake...

Robo-queer II

Perhaps not. Slade's second feature is *Cadet*, a trauma-filled tale of military academy life. Its finale is supposed to be a tender romantic moment for Slade and Ethan Marc, but Slade doesn't improve on his earlier robo-queer performance. What about the grand acting opportunity offered by the heart-rending monologue in which he grapples with sexual identity? Of course, it's a badly written string of clichés, and no characters outside of Shakespeare or O'Neill speak this sort of monologue; I'm sure even Dame Dench would clench wouldst she had to speak it. Slade's stab is pitifully entertaining.

page 100 ►

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

part of the whole shebang.

Amy Marie Meek managed to convince Chuck Renslow that female boot blacks should be chosen at IML, so this year, only men participated. There were nine contestants vying for the honor, which was vacated by Matthew Duncan, IBB 98. Voting stubs in the IML weekend packets were given to the bootblack of your choice and when they were counted, Washington, DC's Bob Ehrlich (also a pledge to the MOD-DC) took the title. It is a much sought-after title that adds interest to IML week.

Drummer & IML update

Due to my Sunday morning (instead of Monday morning) deadline this week, I cannot report

the winner of the Mr. Southeast Drummer in Atlanta during their Leatherfest over the past weekend. That word will have to wait.

Between now and the Intl. Mr. Drummer finals in September, leather women are gearing up for the Intl. Ms. Leather contest in Las Vegas the weekend of July 16-18. It takes place at the World Trade Center Hotel (1-800-390-1777) with rates at only \$55 per night if you mention IML rate code. The weekend package (including the victory brunch) is \$85 available from Bare Images Productions. Contest only tickets are \$25. Call (402) 451-7987, or fax (402) 457-5350 to charge to your Visa or MC.

This year, also, there's the Intl. Ms. Bootblack competition. There are some hot women competing this year for the title, so it should be hot, hot, hot in Vegas.

Shameless plugs

In this day and age where especially in this business a computer is indispensable, I am thankful to D. Alexander Fraser who rescued me from a PC crash last weekend. He's an expert and a whiz on both Macs and PCs, so if you ever need help, call him at (415) 824-0323. He will not let up until your computer is up and running!

As you all know, the Millennium Bare Chest Calendar contests are history. A brilliant and world-renowned photographer, James Geras completed photographing all 12 winners, and the shoots went brilliantly. Next year's calendar will be in full color, celebrating its 15th anniversary. Be on the lookout for this one; I guarantee it will be a best seller — and all for the good of charity! Thanks, James! ▼

a taste of leather

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BAR TALK



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Only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

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PARTING GLANCES

A Pump Away At The Market Shell
You: green Acura, grey hair, great body. Me: black Nissan, graying hair, curious yellow. Washed my window 3x to check you out. Still wish I hadn't changed lanes. ☎ 7800

You Waved To Me At The Cafe
Me: Tony; you: John. 1st met at the Cafe 12/98 and I took you home. Saw you again Sun. 5/16, but lost you in the crowd. Would like to talk. ☎ 7801

Steamworks Sunday May 16
You-Asian; me-older caucasian. You came into my room. We did it on my stomach and back-very nice. Would love to meet you again. Please call me! ☎ 7803

Ian: Epicenter Afterhour 5/16
You: 6', WM, dark curly hair/goatee, slender/fit, and a cute smile. Me: 6'1", BM, short dark hair/goatee. I saw you; we danced, then lost you in the crowd. WOW! You're very attractive. Coffee? Dinner? Call. ☎ 7803

Pepsi One @ Bell Mkt 4/16
Could not respond to your ad before expired due to travel. Please contact me. Been thinking about you. More discussion definitely necessary. Fizz-fizz-fizz. ☎ 7805

Viet Bobby Pleasure Dome June 6
Hey cutie- had a great time singing in car. Call please < C > ☎ 8003

Looking For Greg
Hello Greg. This is Peter. We met at Steamworks on Saturday June 5. Would like to see you again in a more private atmosphere. Please call. ☎ 8105

West Side Story May 31
Sat in front of you, you were so kind turning cooler for backrest. Met again in restroom line, didn't have card. ☎ 8103

You Handsome Devil
In that '67 Ford Galaxie convertible. Crossed paths around town, many times. I'd really like to go for a ride (in your car)! ☎ 7806

5/25 Harveys
You- Dashing smile, bright eyes, handsome. I brought you a corona. Must know who you are. Call ☎ 7900

Escny Pizza Sun 5/16 1:00pm
Haight Street. You red sweatshirt. Me green t-shirt, shorts, back from B to B race. You expressed interest but unable to exchange numbers because of your young female companion. Please call! ☎ 7807

Folsom Gulch 5/18 7:30
You: short brown hair, arm in cast, sweater with red stripe, Me: tan shorts, blue T-shirt, Us: hot! Want to see you again. ☎ 7804

Howdy Mr. Red Goatee
Red shirt to match, wranglers & cowboy wallet. 5/24 evening. B of A, then Market St. Me: horseshoe mustache with dog. This good hearted cowboy took notice. Would be honored to hear from you. ☎ 7808

San Rafael 3rd St. Sat 6/5-1:00
You were in a black vw convertible on your way to the Russian River. I was in a teal buick. We both have s/p hair. Spoke briefly. Mutual attraction? Let's connect. ☎ 8000

Dolores Park Sun 6/6
You: Handsome, brown hair, white square-cut bathing suit w/boxer puppy+ friend w/tattoos. Me: blond, black w/red stripe square cut w/friend. We smiled a lot + you winked before you left. Wish I'd said "hi". Wanna meet? ☎ 8001

GAM Swimwear Model 5/14/99
At AIDS Health Project event. Me: GWM, brown hair, dark suit. We exchanged glances and hello as I left. Would like to say more. ☎ 8002

Steamworks- Memorial Day
Josh- I've been thinking about the hour we spent working up a sweat! It was fun & I enjoyed it. It would be great to do it again, Jon ☎ 8004

Pablo Some 1 Misses U
My roommate is broken hearted but working on recovery. Wish u-z could have lived ur dreams. Hope things work out 4-u at home. El te quiere! Carlos. ☎ 8005

Whole Foods, California Street,
Afternoon Thursday, June 3rd. "Hi" near bulk foods. My "exchange" dilemma. You lingered near flowers. Pondering those moments, your smile since. ☎ 8007

Backpacking On Bart 5/28
Gabe- met you at the Powell Street station, you: in route to Lost Coast; me to family party- we chatted. Call me- I'd love to go hiking with you! ☎ 8008

Bed, Bath, Beyond, May 30
You were the beautiful black guy on bike in line behind my buddy & me. I'm the one with the mustache. Wanna meet? Wanna marry? ☎ 8009

Blow Buddies Sun 5/23
We met inside as I was leaving. Once outside, you saw me and called to me. We did some gut-punching. Let's do more. ☎ 8010

Goatee Stud W/Asian Friend
Castro Street, late Saturday night, June 12, I caught your eye walking in opposite direction, cruised, but had to keep walking w/two friends. Call for more! ☎ 8100

City Tow Thurs 6/10
You: moved here from Scottsdale, blocked a driveway. Me: commercial meter, didn't notice. Maybe we could find that Vietnamese restaurant together. ☎ 8102

"Fed Up" At The Theatre Rhino 6/3
You are tall and handsome sitting in the front row with female friends. Did not want to interrupt, should have interrupted. Would like to talk. Coffee? A drink? ☎ 8104

Confetti- (EC-4) Tues 6/8 1:30PM
You- slender, blonde, blue-eyed-sitting by window with Asian woman friend. Me- bright yellow shirt, green tie. I sat by your table with friend. If interested please call. ☎ 8106

ATM @ Mass On Memorial Day
You: 6'4" thin blonde, killer smile, you said hi, my rec'd wouldn't print. I got shy. You/friends arrive Pleasure-dome in Taurus- Me: 6'3", soaked, shady blonde in tan jeans, want to say hi! ☎ 8107

May 31- Sweet Dennis
Memorial Day afternoon in Berkeley. Anytime? How about one more time at least? ☎ 8006

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

GWM Seek Man Of Color
For friendship, sex, possible LTR. 5'10", 170# blonde, bottom, HIV+. Like the arts, outdoors. You be kind, gentle. Thanks. ☎ 7809

Dad Ready To Hold You
Very affectionate sincere, professional, spiritually conscious, gymfit, top in my 50's, seeking you, tender slim young son, who know how to love. (Not for \$). ☎ 7810

Att. Big And Tall Admires
GWM 41 6'8", 350# Artist/Gourmet seeks dates. Into all sports esp. Giants and 49ers, fine dining, movies, theatre, gay events, museums, Fri. nite cocktails. Age/race unimportant. ☎ 7811

Nice Guy Looking For Love
Me: GWM, 40, 5'7", 140#, shaved-head, ns (1). You: taller than me, in-shape, ns. References and interest available on request. ☎ 7812

Possible Romance
I'm seeking a guy under 40, White or Latino for a possible LTR. I'm Latino, Mexican-American. 28, 5'7" 165lbs, stocky, muscular, gradstudent. ☎ 7813

Still Searching
SWM, 30's 6'1", 170#, attractive, HIV-, with wide range of interests (hiking, movies, music, etc.). Looking for friendship, dating, intimacy, hopefully leading to LTR. ☎ 7901

Attractive Latino
Good looking 33yo dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, professional looking for 27-40yo GWM, for friendship or more. Me: I like movies, biking, travel, hiking, Just call. ☎ 7902

Fuzzy Furby Sks Choc Beanie
Enjoyed your company 5/8 and holding you til morning. Then lost your number and now my head. Where are you? Please call and let romance unfold. ☎ 7903

GAM Seeks Hot GWM
GAM seeks GWM 30-40 yo for LTR. Very good-looking, professional, works out regularly (no excuses!), big top (like the circus), great personality, well-travelled, well read (not the color!), no baggage, no drama, likes to party (sometimes). ☎ 7904

Trim, Toned & Sensitive
Handsome, distinguished, passionate, well endowed GWM, 5'9", 156#, 47, seeks GM 25-40 any race, for faithful, gentle, sensual, LTR, must be healthy, slim, ND, ND. ☎ 7905

An Aztec Guy In Santa Cruz Area
23 Mexican 5'6" 170 medium build-complexion str8-acting, honest, friendly, good feelings, masculine, looking to meet guys 25-48 for friendship & LTR with the right guy. Call English/ Spanish. ☎ 7906

Chemistry Experiment
Attractive 40's GWM in search of spontaneous combustion with like minded HIV- adventurer healthy men of any age, sex, ethnicity welcomed. Spanish speaking ok, multicultural a plus. ☎ 7907

HIV+ East Bay Top Wanted
Capricorn, Cancer, Virgo-black haired, brown eyes- any race- HIV+ Pittsburg Taurus, 37, blonde, blue, 160 lbs- looking for suburban loving big brother type to play house with. ☎ 7908

Square Seeks Edge
I'm a nice, boyish mainstream guy (GWM, 33, 6'1", 165) turned on by wild looks: skaters, punks, skinheads, tattoos, etc. Seeking sex (vanilla or rough kink), maybe more. ☎ 8108

Intimidating Looking
GBM, aggressive, dominant, strong, serious, romantic, gentle, discreet, HIV-, goodlooking, 9" and 7" round, 49"ch, smooth. One tone body. Big round butt, big swollen nipples. Strong legs, black only. ☎ 8011

BiWm Seeking Dominant Asian
Please be under 40, attractive, in-shape and emotionally secure. I'm 32, blonde, muscular, good-looking, submissive and masochist (can switch). I will serve well if you take time to know me. ☎ 8012

GLM 28 Stud Looks 4 GWM 24-35yo
Latin, good shape, looks, 5'6", HIV-. You: GWM/mixed race, HIV-, confident, masculine to share endless happy nights & feverish days. ☎ 8013

Relationship Oriented Man
Seeking men with intellect wit and good manners. I'm HIV+ and will travel. Exps paid by me- no drugs or alcohol. ☎ 8014

GWM Bear Looking For Slim Guys
I'm 40yo, 6'3", 220, husky build, boyish fave. Your 35-45, slim, any height, GW/LM. Into movies, music, books, nudity, romance, cuddling, touching. San Francisco preferred. ☎ 8015

Expert Cockucker
Senior GWM 57", 130lbs, begs to worship verbal married straight, hgl-weight proportional, on a casual basis, no sm, no stds. ☎ 8016

HIV+ Blk 150# 5'10"
You 50 or so maybe Jewish or White with a fairly tone lean or slim physical average waist-line with height and weight. Seeking 1 on 1 interaction. ☎ 8017

Encouraging E.Bay P02 Men/Color
We're financially emotionally stable, into conversation, travel food, live entertainment, romantic & sexuality. I'm a professional versatile bottom, small & sexy, masculine, 40, seeking companionship, fun & maybe even you. ☎ 8018

Educated African American
Young & cute 28, 5'6" 170, ISO friendship/LTR with honest good looking intelligent HIV- single guys 23-35. I enjoy dancing, cooking, hiking, the beach & being romantic serious reply only! ☎ 8019

GWM Seeks GBM
Likes books, sex, architecture & spirituality. Sense of humor essential. No crazies, right-wingers or woman-haters please. ☎ 8109

Woof! Woof! Woof!
Well-mannered cat seeks gentleman bear. 5'9", 200#, dark hair, beard. Love music, theatre, art, leather/denim, motorcycles. Out & proud! Be gentle, furry, clean, smart, in or near San Francisco. ☎ 8110

Black Male Seeks White Male
I'm 26, 5'10" 155lbs. Handsome, masc, gym toned. You are masc., under 32, young looking, nice body for pleasure in bed, adventure out of bed. We both detest one-nighters. ☎ 8111

Join Us!
Gay Men's Group. 30-50 seeking LTR monthly meetings or parties. Nice guys only. Sincere guy welcome! ☎ 8112

Ltr W/ Well-Adjusted Man
You: 28-adventurer healthy men of any age, sex, ethnicity welcomed. Spanish speaking ok, multicultural a plus. ☎ 7907

Live Together Lover
53yo, HIV+, professional, westerner, father, workout, 5'11", nice guy, vers, shaved head, goatee, NS, light Drink, got shit together. You: no games or BS, any age/race (like younger), open to LTR, vers, not kinky sex, volunteer. ☎ 8114

Hugs And Kisses Come First
Affectionate topman needs bottom for play and for relationship Me: GWM, 48, 6'5", 250lbs, brown hair/mustache, hairy chest/stomach. You: GM (White, Asian, Latin) slim, 21-35, smooth/moderate bodyhair. ☎ 8115

Handsome GAM Seeks Chubb GWM
30year old, swimmer's build, loves reading, classical music, traveling. Desires to build long term relationship with someone down-to-earth, open-minded and loving. ☎ 8116

Full Life, Stable Relationship
GWM 37, handsome, slender, excellent relationship material. Enjoys most activities, seeks GWM, loving, romantic, good person, under 45 for serious and sincere relationship. Is this what you really desire. ☎ 8117

South Bay
Masculine, well-endowed, easy-going topman, 49, 6'1", 190#, short silver-gray hair/beard, seeks eager bottom in San Jose area. ☎ 8118

Focus And Fit
Professional, affectionate, witty, clean-cut, rugged Asian, 51, 5'8", 155, seeks clean-shaven, lean or muscular WM for adventurous companion. Enjoy the outdoors, hiking, workouts, films, ethnic foods, cultural arts and you? ☎ 8119

BAR TALK PERSONALS ARE FREE!

CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐
Seeking Relationship ☐
Seeking Adventure ☐
Lesbian ☐
Fetishes ☐
Couples ☐
Others ☐

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

Name _____ Daytime Telephone _____
Address _____ Evening Telephone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

PEWM Seeks Self-Assured GAM
39yo Finance Executive, Pacific Heights, masculine, strong, fit, intelligent, well-built, well traveled, conservative, non-scene seeks GAM, fit, traditional, intelligent, self-assured, top, for dinner, movies, pampering. ☎ 8120

Someone To Be Kind
To in between the dark and the light... Handsome, International Business Man 6'160, 55yo, silver fox, ISO 25-50yo, slender, intelligent, employed ns/nd and HIV- guy for LTR. ☎ 8121

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Big Men
G3M, 5'11", 250lbs, big chest, hung, seeks, stocky, chubby men for uninhibited sex. Must be discreet. ☎ 7814

Ready For Some Exercise?
Versatile 26, 6'2", 170lbs Mexican, seeks good looking 23-35, h/wt prop., versatile top guy for long sweaty fuck sessions. Tall and hung a plus. ☎ 7815

Boysish Asian Bottom
Cute boysish Asian 5'3" seeks gym toned smooth WM or AM top under 40. I have a firm butt and strong legs. Blonde a plus. ☎ 7816

I Need It Sucked-Wife Won't
WM, 40's, big + cut, needs sucking off in Castro- M/T, Wed only, days. Like it long & slow, prefer 40's + any race, no weirdness. ☎ 7817

I Want Your Big Dick
Looking for a few good men who are incredibly hung to service. If your are gym-toned, 20-45 and love to be sucked-off, give a call. I'm fit, ready, & able. ☎ 7818

Big Muscles!! Big Fun!!
GWM, 35, handsome muscular and HIV-, 5'10", 210# looking for hot, safe times with muscular bodybuilder types, 25-50yrs. Any race, but muscles are a must! Let's oil up and flex together. ☎ 7819

Asian Bottoms Come And Get It
Let me tongue & cock fuck you, hot Asian ass. 39yo GWM, Italian neg. Great looks & body. I want to be your top, Call Now. ☎ 7820

Velvet Throat Shaft Massage
For Asian, Latino, Black who need a full body erotic, sensual massage. Me: big, very masculine, very strong, str8 acting, GWM, mid 40's, smooth, 25-40 only; lean, trim body a must. ☎ 7821

Submissive Dad In Sonoma Co.
Wants to be dominated by slender son, 18-35. Tell me how to please you. I'm generous, fun, attractive, imaginative, healthy GWM. Anywhere in Sonoma Co. Daytimes only. ☎ 7822

Handsome Muscular Italian Hung
8'2" would like to meet hot top to bottom guys for hot fucking n sucking. Let's lock into a 69, then fuck each other. ☎ 7823

Playmate For Big Guy
WM, 41, 6'0", 215, blue eyes, beard looking for husky to heavy guys for occasional fun. You: 30-50, facial hair, like to kiss and touch. ☎ 7824

SKG Black Top
Shave head kinky white sub seeks dominant aggressive kinky black top/daddy into heavy duty butt play, tit play, also b/d, s/m. ☎ 7825

Hairy Muscular Handymen 30+
Sought by mature SF GWM. Odd jobs for your profit; Wheels needed. Hairy arms, legs, chest, crotch essential. Credentials appreciated. ☎ 7826

Cowboy Wanted
Looking for country & western type of guy to attend the Reno Rodeo in mid June. Other interests include travel, outdoor activities and fun times. ☎ 7827

SubJ B/D Buddy Wanted
If you would like to play with my long, thick, uncult dick then call. Mutual 0/ required. Be discreet, hot and love long, slow daytime sessions. Likes video's a plus. ☎ 7828

Order Me To Kiss Your Hairy Ass
Humiliate me while I service and worship your butt. Must be healthy, hairy, dominant masc. guy. I'm a hairy hung guy on holiday and I never kissed ass before. ☎ 7829

Asian Will Massage Bottom GWM
Nonprofessional massage given to slender, smooth GWM at your place. Please be clean, HIV+ ok. Me 30's, in shape, short, HIV-, clean shaven, smooth. ☎ 7830

Straights More Fun To Suck Off!
They've had it w/Monicas, lousy at this man's job. Appreciating it more, they shoot more. (oh, if you're gay, maybe I'll suck you off anyway, since you've got it out & up). ☎ 7831

Broken In By Older Man?
Did he make you do embarrassing/exciting stuff you'd only fantasized about? Masc, dominant, well-endowed Male, 40, HIV- seeks submissive younger guy. Discrete, safe only. ☎ 7909

In Your Lap
Sexy boy 31, slim build, seeks big brother to sit me in his lap, jack me off slowly while looking into my eyes, make me squirt. You're in control. ☎ 7910

Daddy Bear 55 6'5 290 Gr/bl
Seeks buddy/boy/little brother. I'm restoring an old house and garden on the Bay Area fringes, but I always have time for meals out, nights in, weekends away. ☎ 7911

Italian Top Dad
Will cuddle you in his lap and then fuck your ass real slow/long & tenderly. Me: 53. You: under 35 and slender. I am masculine + pretty buff. ☎ 7912

Santa Rosa Sonoma Co.
GWM- healthy, handsome, hung, seeks oral, bottom, like to take it both ways, be handsome NS, ND, 25-45. ☎ 7915

All I Want Is To Suck You Off
If you come over and stand there, letting me do what I do best, sucking your "big cock." Pret., black dick, I'm 45, 5'8", light brown hair, green eyes, heavy. ☎ 7916

Hung Blk Master Wanted
Mature WM hung, discreet, clean, wants you to fuck my throat, talk dirty, play new games, day or night. ☎ 7917

Bottom In Town For Pride Week?
Black ramp pumper, 45, delivers a gentle but firm, hotel room internal massage. Husky build, moustache, Hispanic, age 40+ are big turn-ons. Must leave full name. ☎ 7918

Summer Fun At Russian River
Gdkly, WM, 42, 5'5", 125lbs, dkbrn/gyr, lean, nicely muscled. Looking for hot sex or more with lean, in shape guys. New Russian River resident with sunny, private house. Visit SF often. ☎ 7914

Hand Jobs In Cole Or Haight, Etc.
I do it for you & you do it for me. I am over 50, athletic seeking under 35 slim. We set our scene to fulfill a fantasy, experts only. ☎ 7919

Indian Prince Ready To Sweep
You away! Massage, dancing & ecstasy. Young, pretty, crazy, brilliant, artistic, adventurous. RU cool enuf? ☎ 7920

Oral Exams Harder Than Written
Because you can't fake anything for your doctorate! I'm getting mine in cocksucking. Wanna give me/be recipient of my orals? You'll think I'm Dr. off cocksucking already! ☎ 8020

Horny Top Wanted
HIV+ Europ. GWM (29,6', 185lbs) seeks good lkg. fit HIV+ top for sex and friendship. ☎ 8021

Asian Seeking Bottom
Asian top 5'7" 130# 30yrs. slender, gym tone seeking Caucasian or Latino man. Beely, muscular with facial hair A+. ☎ 8123

Seeking Bondage And Flogging
Seeking playmate who likes to administer bondage and flogging. I'm 40's lean and fit. ☎ 8126

Hot Top- Help Me Fuck My Man!
Man: GWM 44, 5'8" 155lbs, big uncult dick, kinky b+d needs abuse! Master: GWM 47 5'10" 179lbs. good build huge nipples, great dick/balls. Top satisfaction guaranteed. ☎ 8022

Reckon You'll Be Callin'?
Attractive SF single GWM Southern gentleman, 45, 5'9", 165, brown/brown, mustache, in shape, HIV-, intelligent, funny, romantic, versatile seeks similar or younger for dates and more w/ LTR potential. ☎ 7913

Wrestle-Play, Anyone?
Two leanly muscled guys looking to get out of our heads & into our bodies wrestling other guys. 3-way struggles, gang-ups, tag-teams. Let's sweat as we playfully struggle to submission. I'm 6'2", 168; my wrastle-buddy's 5'11", 160. You're hard, skinny to muscular, G/B, WM, any height, and ready for sensual, muscular fun. ☎ 8023

Chubby-Daddy-Teddy-Grizzly-Bear
Hot, fun, vul. Deep bl eyes/voice, 6'2/18 CHUB, groomed short beard/stache, hairy chest/belly, 6'cut. Safe, sane & versatile. Vanilla to sane kink. U= trim & affectionate. ☎ 8024

Muscles? I'll Eat Your Ass
Muscular, GWM, clean, 20-40 let my probing tongue get you hot, when your ready to shoot, shove your cock down to asshole and I'll suck you off while tonguing your hole. ☎ 8025

Total Bottom, WM, 35, Buzzcut
5'10", 155lbs bubble butt, washboard abs, excellent sucking, pretty face, great ass. ISO total top. ☎ 8026

Hot Pig Bottom Wanted
White guy 55, 6', 155lbs brn/bln glasses, big 9"cock wants hot White, Latin or Asian pig bottom to fuck. You be under 40 and submissive. No fats or fairies. ☎ 8027

Hry Masc Mid-Aged
6', 230#, 50yrs. + masc. Looking for other hry mid-aged men. Into j/o, sniffing, licking, kissing, being verbal. Hry A+ - E-Bay preferred. ☎ 8028

Long Hot Sessions
Vers. well built, 5'11" hung big. Needs well built men (20-30's), hairy with cut cock. Want long, hot sessions to eat, fuck, get fucked. ☎ 8029

Vietnamese Guys
I'd like to drink your pee, snck your nipples, give massage, and anything else you like me to do. ☎ 8030

I'll Satisfy You To The Fullest
Me: 35yo/ HIV- always horny n excellent receiver. You: 18-48yo top, HIV- husky a plus. You'll never forget me. ☎ 8032

Senior ISO Senior
Very sexy senior looking for fit older men into sucking, rimming, nipples, ws etc. Any age, color or weight. Aroma a plus. ☎ 8033

Bondage And Flogging
I'm looking for a playmate who likes to administer bondage and flogging. Safe sensible and moderate. I'm in my 40's, lean and athletic. ☎ 8034

ISO Masculine Bottom
Masculine, spirited WM (youthful gym build 5'6", 145, HIV+) wants grounded in-shape bottom for intense, nurturing connection. Men/bos of all races welcome. ☎ 8035

Older Master Seeks Yng. Slave
For on-going master-slave and/or daddy-on scenes. I'm 75, 5'8", 170, dominant. My boy is 18-45, gd/kr, healthy, and prefers serving an older man. ☎ 8122

Brazilian Passion
Hot versatile German/Portuguese 155#, 5'10", brn/gyr, Smooth Body, Gym Toned, Super Sensuous, Luscious Kisser, Super Healthy/ Athletic HIV+, Looking for fun guys to connect or possible LTR. ☎ 8031

Just Shut-Up And Ride
WM 34, 5'10" 200lb, blond/blue, muscle guy- 48" ch 33" w, 18" arms- wants goodlooking masculine men to pump me/or get pumped. Also love to get massaged and jerked off- anytime. ☎ 8124

Hungry Bear Luvs To Lick Sweat
ISO smooth, lean, sweat slick GWM, GAM tops 18-30 needing oral TLC, get a friend? I love getting it from both ends at once. Grungy young skater dudes A+. ☎ 8125

Free Erotic Massage
Nude gentle loving care for cute guys under 30 who are slim or muscular from an in-shape middle age lively deal. No reciprocation needed. ☎ 8127

Wanna Fuck A Big Daddy Bearbutt
SF big daddy bear seeks 18-30yr. old, non-chubby butch boy stud with throbbing dick to pound his big-butt fuck me again, and again, and again. ☎ 8128

Short Men With Big Cocks!
Let this hot daddy service your big cock. You be under 5'8" and hung big. Daddy's 50's, tall & trim. I like trim, masculine, muscular guys 20-40 only. ☎ 8129

AI Oral Service- Delivered
SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. Your place. No reciprocation. HIV-. ☎ 8131

Rear-End Fever
Very sexual mature GAM bottom searching for select GW/LB tops for premium anal enjoyment. Prefer talented medium/smaller endowments, endurance, aftermoons (if possible), age/looks no factor. Be HIV- ☎ 8132

Attention Big, Tall Husky Guys
Willing to feel my smooth buccal cavity, why wait! You: Bi/GWM/straight 18-35 HIV-, Me: Asian 5'9", 35 w/talents for contractions and relaxations. Feel heaven inside of me. ☎ 8133

Kick Back!
Friendly, GWM loves to play with and suck cock. Seek in shape G or bi w/ 18-45. Great time. Let me worship your dick. ☎ 8134

Friendly Bottom Needed
Semi-shy super slim top, 30, 6'1" 150lbs, 8" HIV- seeks bottom boy to suck and ride my thick shaft. You be proportionate, normal, dedicated bottom. Asian A+. ☎ 8136

Want Top In East/South Bay
Educated Asian professional, good shaped, 50+ but younger looking, no previous gay experience, wants to experience getting fucked by a gentle, clean, HIV-, n/d, top of any/race. ☎ 8138

San Diego GWM ISO Full Service
Pig btm 4 wknd wallows. Shaved head, got. Cut castron dick str8 up in thick bush of funky br public hair. Hairy ripe ass, crusty jockstrap. 6' 170#, 48 y/young, hung & full of cum. Short, hairy, tats, rings A+. ☎ 8135

VGL Exotic Dad
6'-185lbs- 50 looks 40- salt & pepper hair & stache, muscular, HIV+ hairy- huge, uncult meat- ver-passionate, romantic- ISO hunky, hot, hung red heads & blonds- ub in shape, ver, poz, 35-50. No attitude, N/C/N/A, herb ok. Passion, facial hair A+. ☎ 8137

Asian And Filipino Bottoms Yea
Big dick Italian top- wants to lick & fuck your ass. 36, good looks & body. Respond only if you want it. ☎ 8130

FETISHES

Daytime Asshole-Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 7832

BDSM Bottom Seeks Top(s)
Early 40's, good looks and build, masculine, seeks experienced leather master with place and equipment for BDSM sessions. ☎ 7833

Novice Needs Training
From masc. in-shape white masters 35 and under. Me: Asian, 30, 5'9", 160, bottom, HIV-tats, into ws, t, dildos, restraints, floggings. ☎ 7834

ISO Uncult Dicks On Slim Guys
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Experienced bondage top, 41, 5'8", 155, good looking, seeks submissive, masculine guy, 21-45, for erotic bondage and play. Limits respected. Safe, discreet, trustworthy. SF, East Bay. ☎ 7922

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BM, 38 seeks very masculine, fit, verbal BM/LM (21-45). Drop by, drop your pants. I'll worship you. My place, S.F. Perhaps you have a friend. Oral only. No reciprocation desired. ☎ 8036

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WM, 30's, 5'8", 145# slim, smooth, 6'cut. Looking for other G/Bi WM, into butt/dick play, clothing ws and other aspects of kink. ☎ 8039

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GWM, 39, goodlooking, blond/brown, muscular, 6'1", 200#, HIV- ISO hot, muscular (25-45) GWM/GLM top for sale play. ☎ 8143

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Are You Free Over Lunch Hour?
Downtown banker looking for other professional men 30-50 to meet for noon time sex and fun. Let's give up the lunch hour. Leave phone numbers or e-mail. Let's get together. ☎ 7836

Older Mature Men Wanted
WLM 42, 6', 160lbs. I enjoy orally pleasing older, mature men either alone or in groups. I'm sexually versatile but not into s & m, leather, soma scene, pain or drugs. I drink, smoking ok. ☎ 7837

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explore

A project of the SF Dept. of Public Health HIV Research Section, as a local site of the HIV Network for Prevention Trials (HIVNET).

Out There

◀ page 78

st Theatre on Friday, August 13. The show launches her CD *Restless*, and she'll be backed by the 10-piece jazz combo that plays on the disc. Tickets for the concert and the champagne dessert reception are through City Box Office, 392-4400.

Wes-sex ed

Now that confirmed heterosexual **Prince Edward**, now the Earl of Wessex and Viscount Severn, has wed **Sophie Rhys-Jones**, now Countess of Wessex, we can vent our spleen about recent reports that **Queen Elizabeth's** consort **Prince Philip** had been *veddy* displeased that two priests kissed at a Buckingham Palace reception which that party gal the Queen threw for once-and-future chaplains.

We find this princely distaste vaguely ironic, since in his salad days Philip was often seen on the bird circuit in NYC (you know, the Green Parrot, the Purple Cockatoo) with his pal, a **very queer Marquis**. We are assured by **One Who Knows and Was There** that Phil and the Marquis were birds of a feather. Out There agrees with the easily shocked royal that this new phenomenon of kissing priests is startling, since we know priests are usually seen administering communion to willing choirboys. We won't even mention the schoolboy antics of Sophie's Choice.

Remember, the two inside letters of *Pride* spell *Id*. Give into your gay, les, bi, trans, pan, omni or simple ol'-fashion' homo-sexual self this weekend, and do scratch that *Id*. ▼

Mark Slade


◀ page 97

But wait. In the aftermath of these films, Slade's got his tail between his legs — or as far between those whopping thighs as anything thicker than a dollar bill could fit. Seems Slade is not actually a new star in X-rated video. Under the name Frank Towers, during the last five years he's made at least 250 hetero videos — which explains the snakelike flickering of his tongue, which he seems to think is expressive, as an obvious holdover convention from his pussylicking days. He entered gay porn in pursuit of the higher fees it pays ("I'm 29 years old," he said, "and I'm not getting any younger."). Thought he could play both sides of the street, only to find he's been blackballed by the straight industry, which thinks that anybody who does gay films is diseased (although, ironically, the gay industry pays more attention to safe sex than the het industry). Slade wails that his "family" has disowned him, that those he thought were his friends have turned their backs on him. How naive he was, expecting fealty in the fickle fields of filmic fornication.

A recent interview in *Unzipped* magazine encouraged us to embrace Slade as a martyr. But he's really just an opportunist. After all, his jump to gay porn was a decision motivated by capital gain, not the desire to explore, fulfill, or indulge a gay identity. He's a vapid performer who is clueless to the joys of gay sex. Are we supposed to embrace him on the strength of big dick alone? Should we be sympathetic to his plight? Why don't we just offer a big Gay *Pride* salute to the men who brought him our way? ▼

BAY AREA REPORTER PERSONALS

MASSAGE



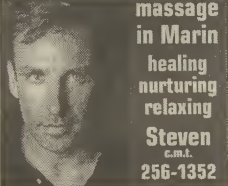
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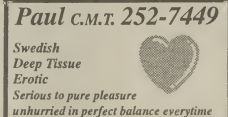
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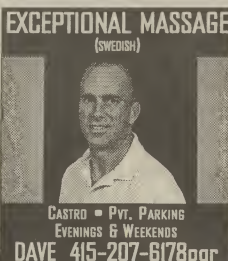
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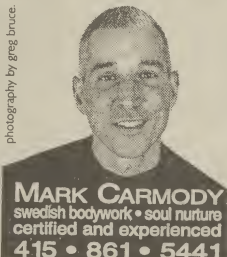
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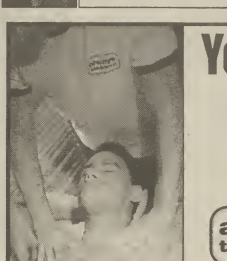
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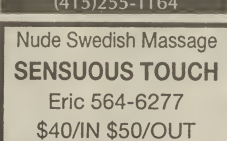
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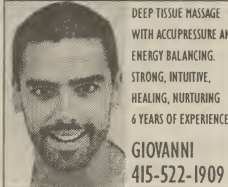
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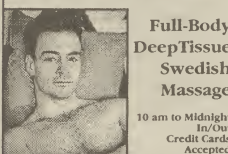
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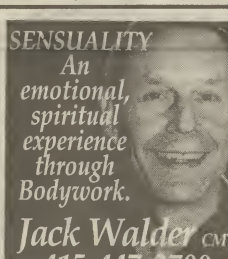
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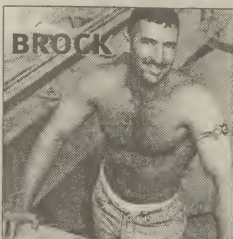
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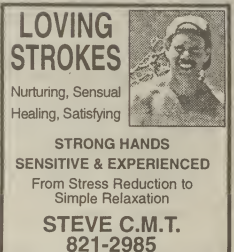
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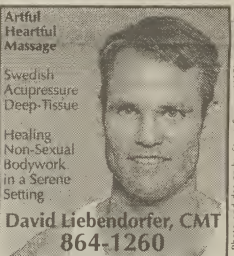
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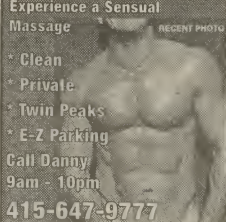
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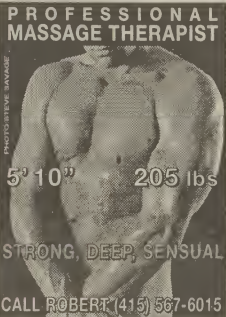
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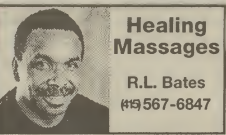
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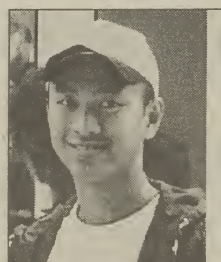
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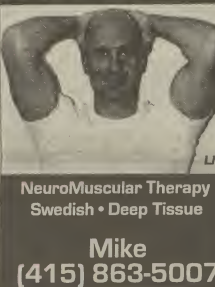
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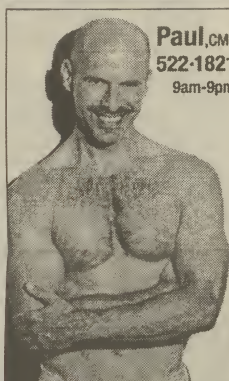
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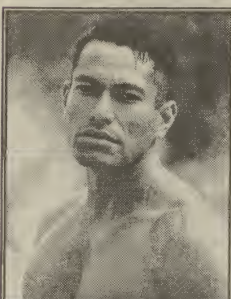
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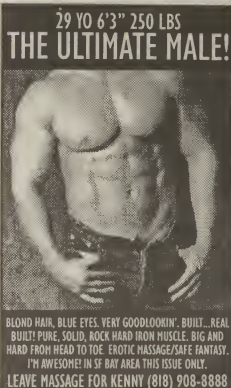
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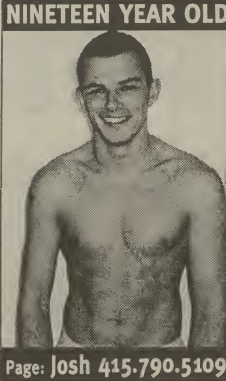
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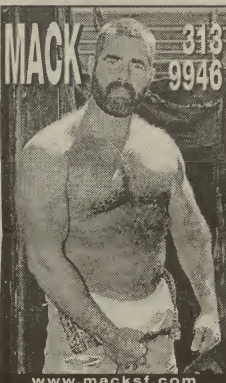
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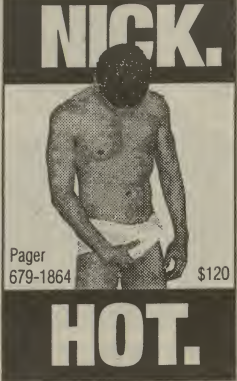
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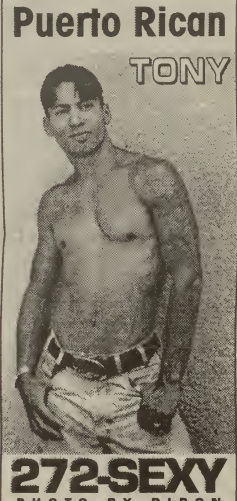
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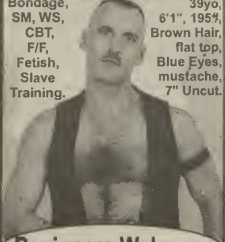
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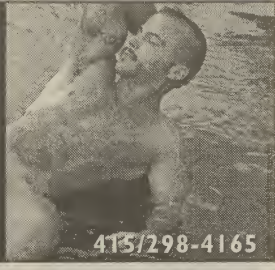
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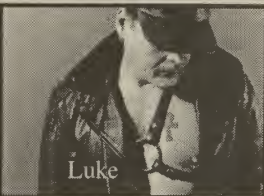
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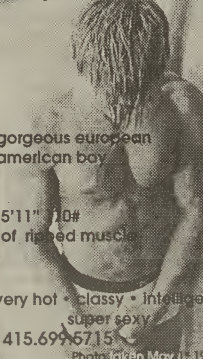
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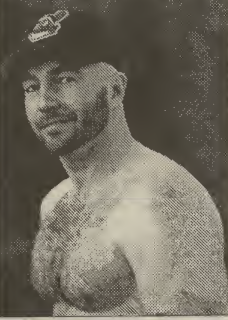
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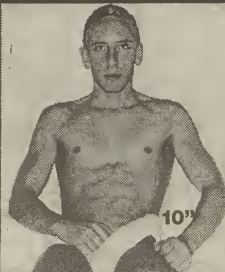
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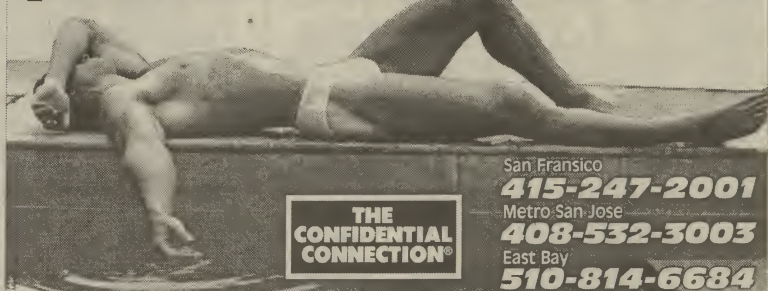
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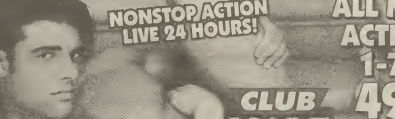
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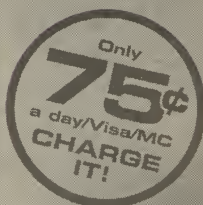
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